

Public fail to respond to Lebanon strike

BEIRUT (R) — Most Lebanese went to work as usual Saturday, ignoring for the second day a call by the General Confederation of Labour Union (GCLU) to strike in protest at the fractured country's soaring inflation rate. Newspapers, banks and some public institutions and schools were closed, but around 90 per cent of factories, restaurants, shops and other private businesses across Lebanon opened their doors determined to do business. Cars filled Beirut's streets and housewives crowded supermarkets and vegetable stalls to stock up for the start of Ramadan. The GCLU called for a two-day strike Thursday to back a demand for a 310 per cent pay increase, which it said would offset the inflation rate over the last six months. About 40 per cent of workers were estimated to have obeyed the strike call Friday. The Administrative Committee of the Commercial Federation Union (ACCFU), a group of merchants and businessmen, urged all employees Friday to go to work "and spare the country a new economic crisis." The GCLU, which has about 250,000 members, called the strike in protest after Prime Minister Salim Al-Hoss said salaries would be raised by 60 to 75 per cent. The minimum wage is now 8,500 pounds (\$21), a month.

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Ramadan begins today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan today observes the first day of the Holy Month of Ramadan during which fasting will be observed from dawn to dusk. The announcement was made by Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Muhammad Mhailan in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra. Mhailan expressed hope that the Arab and Islamic people, through their endeavours, would be able to regain their usurped rights and attain their aims and aspirations. On the occasion, the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs issued a statement urging Muslims to fast the holy month, carry out charity work and extend a helping hand to others and also to offer alms to the needy and the poor. Public offices will work a four-and-a-half hour a day during Ramadan instead of the normal six. They will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saudi Arabia also announced Saturday that Ramadan would start in the kingdom Sunday. Qatar has also declared that Ramadan will start Sunday while Oman has said that Monday will be the first day.

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Cabinet names senior officials

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday appointed Hani Amad as secretary general of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, Munir Al-Dunna as secretary general of the Ministry of Information and Abdul Razzaq Rayyan as secretary general of the Audit Bureau. The Cabinet also decided to retire Dr. Mousa Keilani, who had served as director general of the Department of Press and Publications. The Cabinet approved of a memorandum of cooperation in agriculture between Jordan and Syria concluded during a visit to Damascus last week by Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hamud. The memorandum provides for an agreement to be signed by the two sides organising and increasing the volume of exchanged agricultural products.

Tunisian premier arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — Hedi Baccouche, the first Tunisian prime minister to pay an official visit to Egypt since the two countries resumed diplomatic relations in January, arrived here Saturday for talks with President Hosni Mubarak and other Egyptian officials. Baccouche told reporters upon arrival at Cairo airport that he was carrying a message to Mubarak from Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali. He did not elaborate on the content of the message. Ibn Ali has invited Mubarak to visit Tunisia in a telephone conversation last month but no date was set yet for such a visit.

Soviets send aid to Palestinians

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union has sent food, medicine and children's clothes to Palestinians, "waging a courageous struggle" in the Israeli-occupied territories, the TASS news agency said Friday. TASS said the aid was a gift from the Soviet public, and that a second shipment would be made on April 20. The cargo was to be handed over to a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Cyprus, TASS said. It said the PLO would take charge of the aid for distribution, but did not say how it would be introduced into the Israeli-controlled territories.

Defence lawyers boycott Cairo trial

CAIRO (AP) — Defence lawyers for 31 Muslim fundamentalists charged with attempted murder interrupted a state security court session Saturday by walking out as a prime witness took the stand. Presiding Judge Omar Al Oteifi adjourned the trial to April 24. He also fined all 47 lawyers 50 pounds (\$25) each for the walk-out and said he would ask the bar association to have them replaced by other attorneys. It was the second hearing of the trial. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for 15 defendants, two of whom remain at large, and for the rest prison sentences ranging to life. The lawyers contested the emergency nature of the court, claiming that the defendants' charges did not warrant such a judging body.

Jordan holds Japan 1-1 in Asian Cup

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Jordan held Japan to a 1-1 draw on the eighth day of the Asian Cup qualifying round Saturday. Japan led 1-0 at halftime. Scorers: Japan — Yusuke Minoguchi (5th minute); Jordan — Ibrahim Sandeysa (62nd minute).

Gunmen kill Italian senator

ROME (R) — An Italian senator described as a close aide of new Christian Democrat Prime Minister Ciriaco de Mita was shot dead Saturday and a faction of the Red Brigades guerrilla group claimed responsibility. Police said Roberto Ruffilli, also a Christian Democrat, was killed while alone at his home in the central city of Forli. There were apparently no witnesses. The "Fighting Communist Party," a hardline offshoot of the left-wing Red Brigades, claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to an Italian newspaper.

Murder of Abu Jihad sparks fierce confrontation

## 13 Palestinians fall martyr in bloodiest day of uprising

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead at least 13 Palestinians Saturday in the bloodiest day of the four-month uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza during protests against the killing of top Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Khalil Al Wazir. Arab and U.N. sources said.

They said eight protesters were killed in the Gaza Strip and five in the West Bank in the highest death toll on any day since the uprising began Dec. 9. One U.N. official in the Gaza Strip, calling it by far the bloodiest day there since the uprising began, said: "There is turmoil everywhere. There are a lot of wounded from live ammunition as well as tear-gas."

Over 100 other Palestinians were wounded in the protests, according to hospitals. U.N. officials and Arab journalists. Curfews were slapped on 10 refugee camps. The focus of the violence was in the coastal Gaza Strip, where Wazir lived until 1963 and where close relatives remain. Palestinian leaders blamed Israel for the assassination.

"Israel is the only party that could have carried out such an act," said Hanna Siniora, editor of the Arab Jerusalem-based Al Fajr newspaper. "His (Wazir's) portfolio is the occupied territories. This is an attempt to crush the uprising by force."

Israeli officials maintained a stony silence on the affair. "The assassination of the leader of the uprising will not abort it but will escalate the uprising," said Mahdi Abul Hadi, head of the Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs.

"The finger points to the Mossad (the Israeli secret service). The assassination had been expected," he told Reuters. Gahi Baramki, acting president of Birzeit University in the West Bank, a bastion of Palestinian nationalism, said:

"This act falls into the terror activities which Israel tries to say it stands against. This shows that they do not want a peaceful solution."

"The uprising did not start because of one person and the assassination has created bitterness and anger which will be reflected in the streets."

Widespread protests broke out in the occupied territories as soon as news of Wazir's death was broadcast.

Saturday's 13 deaths raised to 162 the number of Palestinians killed in the uprising.

U.N. officials identified the dead Palestinians in the Gaza Strip as Jamal Hussein Shihadeh, 18, Atwa Abu Arar, 17, Yasser Ahmad Al Sharif, 14, Tahsin Al Bajdi, 17, Jamal Al Jamal, 35, and Ayman Amir Abu Amar, 22 and Fikri Ibrahim Daghmeh, 22.

## Abu Jihad assassinated in Tunis

TUNIS (Agencies) — Khalil Al Wazir, deputy military commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was machine-gunned to death at his home in Tunis Saturday in an assassination which the Arab League and the PLO blamed on Israel.



Khalil Al Wazir

Known as Abu Jihad, Wazir, 53, was the military deputy of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. He was in charge of commando operations and the PLO's support for the four-month-old uprising against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

According to Palestinian sources, he was cut down by a hail of some 70 bullets in front of his wife and a 14-year-old daughter. He had a revolver in his hand, having heard the attackers enter his house in the north Tunis suburb of Sidi Bou Said at 1:30 a.m.

Two Palestinian bodyguards and a Tunisian chauffeur were also slain.

The killers, numbering up to nine and including at least one woman, got clean away. Reports said the woman was filming the assassination with a video camera.

The discovery of a car and two minibuses abandoned 20 kilometres away on lonely Raoud beach, prompted speculation they escaped by sea.

Tunisian officials said the vehicles had been hired by people using Lebanese passports who gave addresses at hotels in Tunis. They said there was no proven link between the killings and the vehicles found at Raoud beach.

The PLO, in a communiqué issued in Tunis, accused "fascist and racist leaders in Israel" of killing Wazir, number two in the Fatah movement, the mainstream of the PLO.

Abdul Latif Abu Hilje, a senior official at PLO headquarters in Tunis, said Wazir's role in PLO efforts to organise Palestinians in the occupied territories must have been the main motive

for the assassination. "It is because of everything he has been doing," he said. The secretary-general of the Arab League, Chadi Klibi, also blamed Israel, as did Wazir's parents, who live in Syria.

The Israeli government declined to comment on the accusations. Palestinian officials who saw Wazir's body before it was taken to the morgue said it was riddled with bullets from head to foot and his right hand was practically shot off.

The officials said Wazir's wife had told Tunisian authorities the attackers were masked, dressed in military fatigues and used weapons equipped with silencers. They said the attackers shot one of the bodyguards seated in a car and two others in front of the house before entering.

Then they broke down the door and began shooting in all directions. One of the officials, who did not give his name, said he counted at least 100 bullet marks.

Wazir's body was found behind the door of his bedroom. His assassination was the second anti-Palestinian act carried out in Tunisia since the PLO set up its headquarters there after leaving Beirut in 1982.

On Oct. 1, 1985 Israel F-15

### Jordan condemns assassination

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government Saturday denounced as a criminal act the assassination of Khalil Al Wazir, deputy military commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

A statement issued by Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Daudin said: "The government of Jordan condemns this criminal act and offers its deep condolences and sympathy to the PLO and the family of the late Khalil Al Wazir who had also served as head of the Palestinian side to the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting the Steadfastness of the Palestinian People living in the Occupied Territories."

jets bombed the PLO headquarters at Hammam Chott, about 30 kilometres south of the capital. The raid killed about 80 Palestinians and 20 Tunisians and injured at least 100 others.

The assassination of Wazir was similar to one carried out in Beirut in April 9, 1973 in which three Palestinian leaders were killed by Israeli agents who came in from the sea.

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## Jordan protests U.S. veto at U.N.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan protested strongly to the United States Saturday over its veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution which would have censured Israel's oppressive response to the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Jordanian protest was handed in a note to U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

During Friday's vote on the resolution in the Security Council, the other 14 members of the council voted in favour. The resolution was submitted by Algeria, Argentina, Nepal, Senegal, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

It would have condemned "those policies and practices of Israel, the occupying power, which violate human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, and in particular the opening of fire by the Israeli army, resulting in the killing and

wounding of defenceless Palestinian civilians."

Several Arab diplomats at the U.N. accused the United States of jealously guarding its own role in the Middle East by trying to paralyse the Security Council.

Arab League spokesman Clovis Maksoud said the veto had "mortally wounded" the latest U.S. peace initiative.

British Ambassador John Birch criticised Israel for "brutal and often indiscriminate actions" against civilians and called measures such as expulsion "immoral, illegal and politically self-defeating."

"World opinion has been shocked and disgusted — rightly so — by the widespread suffering of the civilian population of all ages and both sexes," Birch said.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) envoy, Zehdi Terzi, told the council the United States had isolated itself by killing the resolution. "There's always a rotten apple in the box," he said.

## King pays tribute to Armed Forces, reaffirms stand on Palestinian issue

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent his greetings to the Jordanian Armed Forces and voiced his deep pride in their excellent organisation and skill and in their devotion to serve and defend the country against any aggression.

In a message he sent to Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker following a military parade held here Friday to celebrate the 35th anniversary of his assumption of his constitutional powers, the King said he takes pride in shouldering the responsibility towards achieving the goals of the Great Arab Revolt in defending Arab soil.

Following are major excerpts of the King's message:

"I send my affection and

appreciation to all members of the Armed Forces, the security and defence departments and the People's Army and to all members of the Jordanian Family on

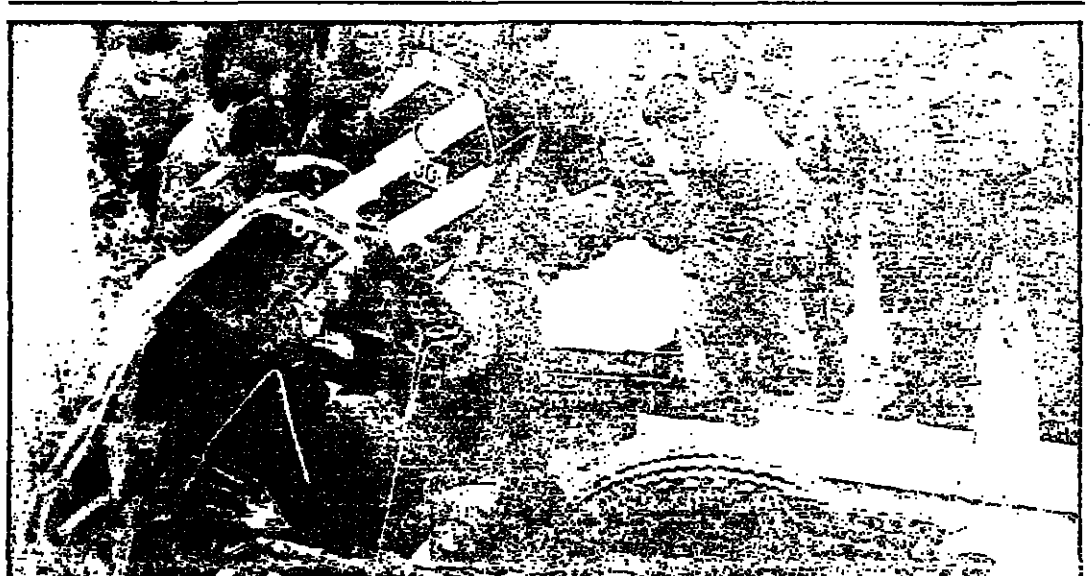
(Continued on page 5)

## King congratulates parties to Geneva Afghan agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent cables to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and Afghan President Najibullah congratulating them over the signing of the Geneva agreement paving the way for withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. The King voiced appreciation of the positive

spirit embodied in the pact that ended a regional conflict and said that the pact would contribute effectively towards serving the cause of world peace and security.

King Hussein expressed hope a similar degree of positive spirit would contribute to the solution of other regional problems, particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war.



Rescue workers remove the body of one of six victims killed when a civil defence water truck went out of control and tumbled down on a sharp decline near the First Circle Saturday

## 6 killed in civil defence tanker crash after downtown blast

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Six people were killed and eight injured Saturday when a civil defence water tanker racing to a fire started by a bomb explosion crashed into a building in a crowded downtown street, eyewitnesses and officials said.

The water tanker was called to the scene after an explosive charge planted in the rear of a parked Opel car at the Municipality of Greater Amman underground parking went off at 11:25, setting the car on fire.

An official spokesman said preliminary investigations revealed that the explosion was caused by a time bomb weighing approximately half a kilogramme and installed on a gas canister placed in the boot of the car. No arrests were reported.

The spokesman said: "This criminal act was carried out after the declaration of Jordan's national Arab position in defence of the Arab rights in Palestine."

He said the explosion was aimed at "diverting the attention



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan visits the site of the accident Saturday

## Hijackers demand fuel to leave Algiers, say they plan massacre

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Hijackers holding a Kuwaiti Jumbo jet at Algiers airport threatened Saturday to kill all their Kuwaiti hostages.

In a statement in Arabic made to three journalists summoned to the plane, they also demanded fuel to fly the plane out, saying they did not want "the massacre" to take place in Algeria.

One masked gunman said the hijackers "are now working to blow up his plane."

He said, however, that they were not abandoning the negotiating process and remained willing to examine "every proposal."

A blue-hooded hijacker frisked all three reporters thoroughly before the exchange began.

The journalists, crouched at the top of steps just below the door of the aircraft, were allowed to ask questions in Arabic. These were then relayed by a gunman just inside the cabin to another hijacker inside the plane.

The correspondents later told hundreds of assembled colleagues that a hijacker holding a sub-machine gun sat just inside the plane on the corner of the aisle.

They said the spokesman, presumably the leader of the group, spoke calmly during the exchange which lasted about 15 minutes.

The statement was translated into French by one of the three reporters called to a news conference at the open door of the Boeing 747 seized 12 days ago.

"We ask our Algerian brothers to provide kerosene for the aircraft in order to take off because we will settle our account with Kuwait elsewhere," the statement said.

"We do not want the massacre to take place in friendly Algeria, which received us and tried to solve the issue."

"The Kuwait government gives nothing to Algeria, whereas we are ready to give everything to Algeria," the statement said. "This hijacking is

different from the 1985 (TWA) hijacking. "This will have a different solution. Conditions are not the same."

"We are now working to blow up this plane, killing all the Kuwaiti citizens aboard if the Kuwait government does not give freedom to our 17 brothers."

The reporters were each allowed to ask two questions after the statement was read, and the entire episode lasted about 15 minutes.

One asked if it were possible to envisage a solution whereby the hostages would be freed in Algeria and the hijackers would leave.

The reply was: "A solution will be proposed to us and we will examine it together with our Algerian brothers in a comprehensive manner. We must have a comprehensive solution."

"We will examine every proposal in good time."

The response appeared to soften the tone of other remarks, indicating that a solution to the crisis, in its 12th day, still could be found in Algeria. In Kuwait, the cabinet met and

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# Jordan's women today: Partners in development

Photographed by Bill Lyon  
Reprinted from  
Jordan Magazine

DRESSED in casual slacks and sweater, like a college student anywhere, Riham is off to begin her freshman classes at the University of Jordan. One day, she hopes to marry and raise a family but now she is in no hurry. Her future offers other possibilities she intends to savor.

First, she wants a degree from college and at least the start of a career in Amman's business world, and then marriage and children. If she decides to continue work after marriage, the second income will help maintain the "middle class" standard of living to which most Jordanians aspire — financial security, opportunities of travel abroad, and an assured university education for her children.

Riham's mother, Umm Qasim, a middle-aged woman with the same sparkling eyes and lively intelligence of her daughter, sits in the living room of her modest home in Amman, reminiscing. Thirty years ago, Umm Qasim lived with her family in a poor farming community in northern Jordan. When the government opened a school for girls in her village, she slipped away one day to attend classes, telling her parents she was visiting an aunt. When her "story" was discovered three days later, her schooling ended. Today, Umm Qasim, the mother of ten grown children, is still semi-literate.

The contrast between Umm Qasim and her daughter illustrates the dramatic change that has taken place in the lives of Jordanian women in just one generation. While the evidence of change is most striking in education and in the increased emergence of women in the professions, a more subtle but no less profound transformation has occurred in women's social life — their roles inside and outside the family and the way in which they are regarded by others. And this change, while virtually a social revolution, has come about without rupturing the highly valued institution of family.

## Education

Umm Qasim's experience is not an uncommon one. Among the women of her generation,

only a fortunate 20 per cent received any education. Today, however, the majority of Jordanian girls are in school. Recognizing that its richest resource lies in its people, the government has made a determined effort to provide equal educational opportunities for all — male and female, rich and poor, alike. In an ever-expanding variety of fields, women now are participating in education in record numbers; and if the current high attendance at elementary levels continues, female illiteracy should be completely eliminated within the lifetime of those now entering primary school.

In 1921, when the Emirate of Transjordan became an independent state, there were no more than a dozen elementary public schools in the country, functioning under a traditional system of education inherited from the Ottomans. And on the secondary level, there were only several traditional Muslim schools and Christian missionary institutions, which served a select segment of the society. Within a year, despite its economic problems, the new government had increased the number of schools to 44, and by 1930 had added ten more schools to its system, including three secondary schools and an industrial trade school.

While initial efforts had concentrated on male education, public schools for girls gradually were opened in the urban communities of Jordan during the ensuing decades. Most significant to educational expansion — especially with regard to female education — was the introduction in 1964 of compulsory education for all Jordanians between the ages of 6 through 15. Since then, progress has been rapid, in both the increase of students and school buildings to accommodate them.

For Jordan's youth, the educational green light had been turned on full force. In 1961, only 36 per cent of Jordanian students at the elementary level and 22 per cent at the secondary level were girls. By 1970, virtually all the female population at elementary age level was in school, and women were rapidly closing the gap with men at higher levels as well.

By 1983, females constituted 48 per cent of students between the ages of 6 and 15, with a 49-per cent presence at the secondary

level. Even in community colleges, which prepare students for work in technical fields, women quickly caught up with men — from a 27-per cent participation in 1970 to 46 per cent in 1983. A parallel pace of increase also took place at university level, from 31 per cent female under-graduates in 1970 to 40 per cent by 1983.

In graduate school, however, female participation drops off noticeably, currently constituting about a quarter of the graduate student population. At this age, for women in Jordan, marriage seems to take precedence over education. Meanwhile, older women have been going back to school, particularly in literacy programmes sponsored by the government. Between 1970 and 1980, of the more than 43,000 Jordanians who completed literacy programmes, 71 per cent were women.

Women also are extending their educational horizons beyond traditional fields of interest. At the secondary and community college levels, for example, while the largest number of women are in commercial and secretarial fields and in teacher education, a growing segment is choosing computers, library science, nursing, paramedics or engineering. On the university level, women tend to specialise in fields related to human development, such as education, psychology and the natural sciences. More than 80 per cent of the students enrolled in the schools of pharmacy at Yarmouk and Jordan Universities are women.

Despite these patterns of concentration, there are Jordanian women now majoring in virtually every academic subject offered in Jordanian universities or abroad, a phenomenon which would have been almost unthinkable two decades ago. Moreover, women now have greater freedom to choose not only their field of education but also where they prefer to study. Today, although most still receive their higher education at home, some 4,000 women are studying abroad.

## The working woman

Women also have moved in large numbers into the working world, as any visitor to Amman immediately notices. Everywhere, they are a visible presence — in banks, government offices,

factories, schools and universities; some are even pursuing careers as policewomen and airline pilots. Moreover, some have assumed executive positions as bank managers, district airline directors, government department heads or cabinet members.

Several factors have led to the increase of women in the work force. Educated and armed with a wide variety of skills, they seek to utilise their new talents. Inflation and the higher cost of living provides another motive. In many cases, two-family incomes are needed to achieve or maintain the desired lifestyle. At the same time, wise national planning has led to greater activity in all sectors of Jordan's economic and social development, thus multiplying the number of available jobs. All these factors have provided unprecedented employment opportunities for women, especially those possessing the education and skills to fill them.

In the past two decades, female participation in the work force jumped from 3.5 per cent in 1961 to 17 per cent in 1985, and it is still climbing. Participation is highest among educated, single females in their twenties, most of whom work. The number of married women who work is much less — only 22 per cent of the female work force. This number, however, is increasing, especially with the government provision of generous maternity leave and child care centres.

Under Jordan's labour law, women are given equal employment opportunities and enjoy equal pay and working conditions in both the public and private sectors. Recent statistics reveal an increasing diversity of occupations for women in Jordan. Although most work in jobs requiring medium-level training and qualifications, many are entering male-dominated professions. Currently, women account for 6.3 per cent of the country's registered physicians, 4.5 per cent of its engineers, and a little less than 1 per cent of its lawyers. A 1981 employment survey of establishments employing at least five people listed 92 occupations in which women are employed. In addition to the expected positions in education, nursing, business and housekeeping, women hold jobs as TV announcers, journalists, geologists, police, photographers, accountants, architects

and airline pilots, to mention but a few.

As in education, job patterns and preferences are emerging, particularly at professional and semi-professional levels. Women outnumber men as teachers below the high school level and as nurses and dietitians, while in social work they are found in equal numbers with men. In public administration and community services, they constitute 24 per cent, in finance and insurance 17 per cent, and in industry 8 per cent. Women are also important in the agricultural sector, where they represent a sizeable portion of the work force and contribute significantly to the nation's economy.

Women also have been making their way into management positions. At this level, the highest ratio of women to men is to be found in education, then in public administration and defence, followed by financial services. These are fields they prefer and in which, not surprisingly, they have made the most headway. Interestingly, in positions requiring higher levels of education, there is less discrimination against women than at lower levels, where competition is stronger and where traditional attitudes towards working women still prevail.

The Jordanian woman has also made strides in the important field of politics. Since 1974, she has enjoyed full and equal political rights with men — voting in elections and running for office — and during the past decade two women have held portfolios in Jordan's Cabinet.

It is not only in paid employment that women have been making their contribution to development. Some of the country's most enterprising talent lies in its volunteer women — noteworthy in number and in the time and commitment they give to their activities. The organisations they serve, which are gathered under the umbrella of the General Federation of Jordanian Women, include scores of voluntary societies and clubs from all over Jordan.

Concerned with a variety of social needs and guided by a "help them to help themselves" philosophy, they undertake programmes of assistance to the needy and handicapped, provide training and job opportunities, promote home industries such as handicrafts, and

lend their active support to women's issues in Jordan and at international conferences abroad.

Jordan's 1986-1990 national development plan includes proposals specifically designed to encourage and assist women's participation in the country's social, economic and political life. Many of the projects covered by the plan focus on expanding work opportunities for women, especially in rural areas where family incomes are often limited. Another aim is to bring legislation more into line with socioeconomic development, particularly with regard to encouraging the increased employment of women and facilitating their dual role as mothers and workers.

## Marriage and family

If education has become a major goal for the typical young Jordanian woman, her interest in a career has not replaced marriage and family as her primary commitment in life. Concern for family, a core value in traditional Jordanian society, is not being sacrificed in a rush to modernisation. Maintaining the well-being of her family is her most important role and one in which she takes considerable pride.

Although some change has occurred on a functional level — such as more individual independence — the Jordanian family continues to exhibit a high degree of stability. Virtually all Jordanian women marry (only 6 per cent remain single) and divorce is rare. Most women now marry in their early twenties, but indications are that more women are staying single longer. In 1972, 30 per cent of Jordanian women married in their late teens; by 1981, the figure had dropped to 13 per cent. Work, as yet, has had little effect on the age of marriage — apparently women are willing to postpone marriage for education, but not for a career.

Jordanian women are also having smaller families, a factor which affects their lifestyle and availability for employment. Although shrinking in size, the Jordanian family is still large and averages 6.4 persons. But the downward trend is clear; in the last decade alone, family size has decreased 15 per cent.

The most important determinant in this regard is the woman's

education. Statistics show that highly educated women have only one-third the number of children as those with little education. Urban life (approximately 60 per cent of Jordan's population) also reduces the size of the family, although not as dramatically as education. More and more, the reduction of family size will permit women to cultivate their own interests and to work, whether for pay or in voluntary efforts, after the family has been raised.

Jordanian women enjoy a high degree of security within the family. The slight rise in the divorce rate, mainly among educated women and urbanites, is still an insignificant issue. Only about 7 per cent of women experience the dissolution of their marriage by divorce and half of these remarry. Polygamy, never prevalent, is dying out. It is rare for a Jordanian man to take more than one wife, and usually it is to increase the prospect of a male heir.

There is little doubt that the trend towards education and urbanisation will further reduce family size. Gradually, the extended family will be reshaped into independent nuclear units. This inevitably will raise the status of women at home and in society and give them a greater degree of control over their lives.

For the single woman, social life in Jordan today, particularly if she lives in a city, is much more accessible and lively than it was for her mother. In the past, the single female remained within the family's social environment until her marriage. Now she travels, studies, works and often socialises in mixed company. The degree of her freedom, however, varies widely between urban and rural areas, between educated and uneducated women and between conservative and liberal families.

In the most liberal families, the young, single girl can meet and select her own husband — on campus, at work or through friends and social functions — but she rarely marries without securing family approval. In the more traditional segment of society, the role of family is paramount. Parents may select a husband and then consult their daughter, but she always has the right to refuse.

The practice of "courtship" in a changing society, where such acti-

vities are new, is a major issue among young people of both sexes. How to get to know one another, how to persuade the woman to say yes, how to convince the family, are frequent subjects of conversation, but the young are finding imaginative ways to meet the challenge.

Another new problem is how to handle the traditional *mahr* or dowry. The *mahr* is a gift to the bride (customary in the Arab world), usually consisting of money or jewellery and agreed upon by her parents and the groom and his family. A longstanding custom divides the *mahr* into two portions: the *muta'adim*, given to the bride at the time of marriage; and the *muta'akhir*, which is paid by husband to wife as alimony should a divorce occur. Inflation has raised the *mahr*, often making marriage unaffordable for a young man just starting his career. On the other hand, the young man often prefers to find a young woman with vocational skills, capable of helping with the family income. Both factors have lessened consideration of the dowry, strengthened the bargaining position of the young people and given them a greater say in their choice.

The Jordanian woman of today is emerging rapidly as an individual in her own right and effecting change in traditional social patterns, but without weakening family structure, values or ties. In fact, one of the strongest impressions one has in Jordan is of the ways in which women are using their talents to strengthen the fabric of their society, by helping to modernise the country without losing touch with the valuable traditions that shape their ethnic identity.

This is the Jordanian woman today, eager, energetic, capable and involved: at home as a mother and wife; in society as a citizen and worker in business and industry; at universities and political meetings, in social work and government. She is poised, confident and hospitable. Dedicated to the well-being of her family and society, the progress of her country and the fulfillment of her life as an individual, she is visible everywhere, projecting a constructive influence on the quality and direction of Jordan's future.



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16:00	Cartoons
16:30	Children's programmes
17:00	Isaura
17:30	Accor
19:10	Local agricultural programme
19:45	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
19:30	Programme on Arabic
22:30	T.V. Magazine (Sci)
23:00	News Summary
23:10	T.V. Magazine contd.

## PROGRAMME TWO

18:00	Rue Carnot
18:30	L'Ecole des Fans
19:00	News in French
19:15	Terré des Betes (documentary)
19:45	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varieties
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	My Husband and I
21:10	Jack Cousteau (documentary)
22:00	News in English
23:00	Philman
23:30	Richman, Ooban

## RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM  
& partly on 95.0 KHz. SW  
Tel. 774111-19

07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsweek
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
11:05	In Concert
12:00	News Summary
12:35	Pop Talk
13:00	News Summary
14:00	Pop Session cont'd.
14:30	News Bulletin
14:10	Instrumentals
14:30	Science Report
15:00	Concert Hour
15:30	News Summary
16:05	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	Listeners Choice
18:00	News Summary
18:35	Rhythm and Blues
19:00	News Summary
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:05	Evening Show continued
22:00	News Summary
22:30	Evening Show continued
23:00	News Summary
23:57	News Headline
24:00	Close Down

07:00 Newsweek 07:30 The Seven Ages of Man 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review 08:00 World News 08:05 Twenty-Fours Hour: News Summary 08:30 Big Bands — The Singers 08:45 Letter from America 09:00 Newsweek 09:30 Jazz for the Asking 10:00 World News 10:05 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 From Our Own Correspondent 10:45 Book Choice 10:50 Waveguide 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 Pleasures Yours 12:00 World News 12:05 The Sunday Papers 12:15 Science in Action 12:45 Squaring the Triangle 13:00 News Summary: Short Story 13:15 Classical Record Review 13:30 Religious Service 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15 From Our Own Correspondent 14:30 Musical Masters of the Baroque 15:00 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: The Lion in Winter 16:00 World News 16:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Sports Roundup 16:45 The Tony Myatt Request Show including at 17:00 News Summary 17:30 Jazz Score 18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 Concert Hall 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15 Can Communism Cope? 19:45 Letter from America 20:00 World News 20:05 Reflections 20:15 Jazz for the Asking 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsweek 21:30 My World 22:00 News Summary followed by Classical Record Review 22:15 The Drum 22:00 World News 23:00 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30 Sunday Half Hour 24:00 News Summary followed by Short Story 00:15 Pleasures Yours 01:00 World News 01:05 Cannery Row 01:25 Book Choice 01:30 Financial Review 01:45 Reflections 01:45 Sports Roundup 02:00 World News 02:05 Features 02:00 Newsweek 02:15 Letter from America 02:30 Six Cities

## VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1360 & SW 7200, 9565, 1174, 11925 and 15210 Hz

07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 VOA Morning 11:00 News 11:10 VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10 VOA Morning 13:00 News 13:10 VOA Morning 14:00 News 14:10 VOA Morning 15:00 News 15:10 VOA Morning 16:00 News 16:10 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 VOA Morning 18:00 News 18:10 VOA Morning 19:00 News 19:10 VOA Morning 20:00 News 20:10 VOA Morning 21:00 News 21:10 VOA Morning 22:00 News 22:10 VOA Morning 23:00 News 23:10 VOA Morning 24:00 News 24:10 VOA Morning 00:00 News 00:10 VOA Morning 01:00 News 01:10 VOA Morning 02:00 News 02:10 VOA Morning 03:00 News 03:10 VOA Morning 04:00 News 04:10 VOA Morning 05:00 News 05:10 VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 VOA Morning 11:00 News 11:10 VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10 VOA Morning 13:00 News 13:10 VOA Morning 14:00 News 14:10 VOA Morning 15:00 News 15:10 VOA Morning 16:00 News 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## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**JD 1,132,000 AID:** The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) provided financial aid amounting to JD 1,132,000 in 1987 to charitable societies in the East and West Bank of Jordan, according to GUVS annual report. The union's general budget for 1988 is JD 5,397,000 up from JD 4,140,000 in 1987, the report added.

**ICRC MEETING:** Conditions in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and Israel's inhuman practices against the Arab population will be among the main topics to be discussed by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) standing committee which opens meetings in Geneva on April 20. Jordan's delegation to the meeting is led by Dr. Ahmad Abu Oqara, who is president of Jordan National Red Crescent Society and chairman of the standing committee. The two-day meeting will also tackle a number of ICRC activities and preparations for the coming ICRC conference.

**TRADE TIES WITH IRAQ:** Iraqi Minister of Trade Dr. Mohannad Saleh Mahdi met in Baghdad Saturday with Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammad Al Saqqaf and discussed with him trade relations between Jordan and Iraq. The Iraqi minister praised the existing cooperation between the two countries especially in trade and industry.

**TRAINEES GRADUATE:** A group of female trainees graduated from Karameh community training centre after completing courses in dress making, weaving and typing. Courses ranged between four and six months during which the participants had theoretical and practical training.

**SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS:** The third exhibition of scientific experiments conducted by secondary school students in the Ministry of Education schools at Karak Governorate was opened Saturday. Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafzah, who opened the exhibition, later opened a club for science students of Mu'ta University. The week-long exhibition projects the students' work in the field of mechanics, electricity, chemistry and computer work.

**POWER TRAINING CENTRE:** Fifteen supervisors of power distribution and control completed a training course at the Zarqa Power Training Centre, conducted by the Jordan Electricity Authority. Participants were oriented on means of avoiding occupational risks and minimising accidents.

**SPRAYING CAMPAIGN:** Salt Municipality Saturday embarked on a campaign for spraying different districts of the city with insecticides. The campaign is periodically carried out to maintain cleanliness in the city. Also in Salt the governor issued strict orders to all restaurants and cafes and parks to refrain from serving food and drinks during the coming month of Ramadan. He said all liquor stores and night-clubs should be closed and banned smoking in the streets and public places.

**CULTURAL WEEK:** The Vocational Training Centre at Ain Al Basha has opened a second cultural week, during which lectures will be given on occupational risks, food poisoning and other topics. A centre official said that the cultural week is being implemented in cooperation with the local community.

**AFRA SPA:** A committee charged with discussing the development of the Afra Spa near Tafleh met Saturday to discuss work underway at the project. The Afra spa was lately closed for the public until such work is completed. The project entails establishing a car park, services facilities and swimming pools for men and women.

**PATHOLOGISTS:** The Jordanian Society of Pathologists opened its three-day meeting at Amra Hotel in Amman Friday and elected a seven-member constituent assembly. Speakers at the meeting underlined the importance of such a society which would focus the Arab society's attention on common and rare diseases, discuss diagnosis techniques and offer ideas on treatment.

**TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS:** The Public Security Department (PSD) Saturday started an intensive campaign against traffic violations such as wrong overtaking, speeding and traffic rules. The campaign runs until May 12. PSD called on drivers to abide by all traffic rules to avoid violations.

**GIFTED CHILDREN:** Two Jordanian children have won silver medals in the annual contest for gifted children in drawing for 1986/1987, organised by the Egyptian Ministry of Culture. The winners are Ayat Odeh Abu Snehk 9, and her brother Abdul Jawwad 5.

**PAINTINGS BY STUDENTS:** Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary General Dr. Ibrahim Badran Saturday opened an exhibition of paintings by students of the elementary schools in the Irbid Governorate at the Jordan University of Science and Technology. On display at the four-day exhibition, which was organised by the ministry's Energy and Electricity Information and Advisory Centre, are drawings representing the best means for utilising energy.

## Deputy Ma'an governor back after talks in Egypt

**MA'AN (Petra)** — Acting Ma'an Governor Jamal Al Momani and his accompanying delegation returned from Egypt Friday after a week-long visit, during which he held talks with Egyptian officials on cooperation between Ma'an governorate and the governorate of northern Sinai. Momani said that a twin city agreement was signed during the visit between the cities of Aqaba and Al Arish in Egypt. The two sides agreed to expand cooperation between the two governorates. It was also agreed to encourage the private sector in Jordan to import fruits from Egypt, such as sweet melons, plums and dates, at a time when there is a shortage of these fruits in Jordan.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday receives ILO Director General Francis Blanchard (Petra photo)

## Israel has transferred occupied lands into huge prison - Nuseibeh

**TEGUCIGULPA (Petra)** — The Israeli authorities have transformed the occupied Arab territories into a huge prison, turning schools into concentration camps for nearly 10,000 Arab citizens, the head of Jordan's delegation to the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting here, Hazem Nuseibeh, said Saturday evening.

The current Palestinian people's uprising in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip aims to liberate the Israeli held territories, Nuseibeh said in his official address to the meeting.

Nuseibeh who is a former minister and member of the Upper House of Parliament is accompanied by members of both houses of parliament to the IPU's 79th meeting.

"Jordan has always supported international efforts for finding a

political settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and continues to call for a United Nations sponsored international Middle East peace conference, in which all concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and members of the U.N. Security Council should participate, to find a just and durable solution for the conflict and to end the Palestinian people's tragedy, Nuseibeh said.

He appealed to world parliaments to devote more efforts to end the Gulf war which, he said, continues to pose a serious threat to world peace and security.

He called on the world community to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to end the conflict in the Gulf. "Iran's rejection of the council's resolution means a rejection of peace, a

direct defiance of the international community's will," Nuseibeh added.

Nuseibeh said that the Arab leaders participating in the Amman Arab summit meeting dealt with different Middle East issues including the Lebanese question.

He said Israel's withdrawal from Lebanese territories would contribute to the process of national reconciliation in Lebanon.

Earlier the Arab group attending the IPU conference held a separate meeting to discuss topics on the IPU agenda and the Jordanian parliamentarians held separate meetings with members of other delegations and the IPU president.

The IPU conference earlier elected Rizk Al Bataineh from Jordan as chairman of the conference's Economic Committee.



S. Korean Envoy: The Ambassador of South Korea in Jordan Tae Jin Park, Saturday handed a copy of his credentials to Foreign

Minister Taher Al Masri. Park succeeds Mr. Dong-Soon Park who had served as his country's ambassador to Jordan since 1985 (Petra photo)

## 'Israelis closed 15 Arab-owned pharmacies'

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — The Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) President Taiseer Al Himsi told a JPA general assembly meeting in Amman that Israeli authorities have closed 15 pharmacies owned by Arabs in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and imprisoned a leading JPA member.

Himsi paid tribute to the current Palestinian people's uprising and said that JPA, along with

other Jordanian associations, was continuing to offer contributions to the Arab people under Israeli rule.

Himsi was speaking at a closing session of the assembly which heard a report on the association's activities in 1987.

He said there was need for the government to amend the existing pharmacists law to make it more adaptable to modern needs and new developments.

## 10 nurses to train abroad

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — The Health Ministry is dispatching 10 male and female nurses abroad to obtain courses on nursing education.

A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that the ministry also decided to send five of its male and female nurses to obtain M.A. degrees in nursing and return to teach at a new training college for nurses to be opened in October.

# Prince Hassan urges ILO to help workers in occupied territories

**AMMAN (Petra, J.T.)** — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday urged the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to carry out activities to help Arab workers under Israeli rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Prince Hassan, who was speaking at a meeting in the Royal Court with ILO Director General Francis Blanchard, said that the conditions of Arab workers in the occupied territories were deteriorating.

The meeting during which Prince Hassan also reviewed Jordan-ILO relations was attended by Acting Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan and other officials.

Blanchard met here Saturday with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin to hear a full briefing on the conditions of Arab population under Israeli rule.

The minister said that economic and social conditions in the Israeli-held lands are deteriorating rapidly due to Israel's practices against the Arab people in general and workers in particular.

"Israel is continuing to impede the economic development of the occupied territories and linking these territories with Israel's economy," the minister said.

He said the Israelis were impeding development projects in the occupied Arab territories and discriminating against Arab workers in Israeli factories.

Dudin briefed the ILO chief on a Jordanian-sponsored programme for the development of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He said since 1967 occupation the Jordanian government has been paying the salaries and wages of people employed in different departments in the West Bank and has been offering allowances and other forms of assistance to those working in agricultural, industrial, educational and health fields.

Jordan last year launched a proposed \$1 billion five-year programme of aid to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, aimed at pumping in money to help Palestinians resist economic pressures to leave their lands.

In February, Dudin said, Jordan budgeted JD 10 million of its own money to the effort but spent JD 3 million on West Bank pro-

jects during the seven months of the programme last year in addition to roughly JD 4 million for social welfare programmes.

He said that the government hoped to spend the leftover (JD 3 million) and the 1988 JD 10 million allocation this year.

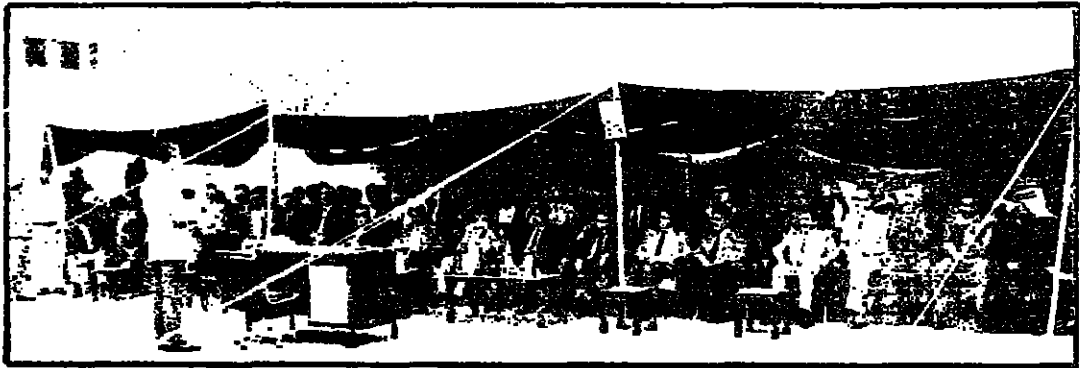
Dudin said larger plans were scheduled for 1988 including a JD 1.25 million feasibility study for a Gaza water system, a JD 350,000 vocational college near Jenin and JD 350,000 for an industrial complex in Ramallah.

He said that in addition to the development funds, Jordan last year spent more than JD 9 million in salaries and allowances for some 2,800 Jordanian civil servants who remained in the occupied territories since 1967 Middle East war.

The minister said that Jordan continues to aid workers who went on strike when Israel occupied the West Bank 20 years ago.

That, he said, includes JD 300,000 every two months for lawyers and JD 175,000 yearly for Jerusalem municipality workers.

The ILO director general Thursday met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Acting Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan to discuss issues pertinent to the occupied territories.



Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud Saturday visits the Zarqa River Basin development project (Petra photo)

## Hmoud urges preservation of trees

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Agricultural Minister Marwan Hmoud met Saturday with a number of farmers at the Aalouk district, whose lands are included in a project for the development of the Zarqa River Basin, and discussed planting trees in the area.

The minister said forest trees are badly needed to stop soil erosion especially in the basin region, and the ministry would not allow any one, for any reason, to cut down trees.

The ministry is even willing to exchange land with forest trees owned by farmers for state-owned cultivable land which farmers can use, Hmoud said.

He said fruit trees are grown on nearly 30,000 dunums of land, and the trees are considered as a national wealth because they help stop erosion and conserve water.

Referring to the project which is being implemented by the ministry in cooperation with Arab and foreign funds and organisations, the minister said it is

being executed for the benefit of local farmers and to help improve the social and economic standards of the local community.

At the start of the tour, the minister inaugurated a waterfall control unit, the sixth of its kind in the region, and overlooking the basin.

The ceremony was attended by ministry and local officials and farmers. Later the minister toured two local farms included in the project.

## Kailani: No unemployed vets in Jordan

**IRBID (J.T.)** — The veterinary profession in Jordan has no problems of unemployment because vets are needed to offer services to the increasing livestock in the country, according to Jordanian Veterinarians Association (JVA) President Abdul Fattah Al Kailani.

Kailani who was addressing a "Scientific Day" held in Irbid Friday was quoted by the local press as saying that more graduates are needed to meet the Kingdom's needs of veterinary services.

He voiced the JVA's delight at a decision by the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) to open a veterinary faculty, which he said will

be the only one of its kind in Jordanian universities.

The participants attended three sessions and heard prominent vets deliver speeches on the treatment of livestock, and poultry.

Kailani outlined the association's development and activities.



## GUVS to open Ramadan souks

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) has decided to open Ramadan Souqs (open-air markets during the holy month of Ramadan) to raise charity funds and at the same time orient the public on GUVS activities. Al Dastour Arabic daily quoted Ahmad Abu Faris director of the GUVS markets project as saying,

Abu Faris said that in fact the Ramadan Souqs complement the GUVS "one piastre a day project," engineered three years ago, to help needy families and their children.

The "one piastre a day project" at present entails covering education of 400 needy students at Jordanian universities and

offers financial help to thousands of students in the secondary schools, Abu Faris noted.

He said that the "one piastre a day committee" now plans to raise money through the open air markets to finance the education of 200 more students at Jordanian universities in the coming academic year.

## SJMS to transfer seminar recommendations into work plan

# Jordan, Sweden establish medical society

By Rania Atalla  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

**SWEILEH** — A week of cooperation between Jordan and Sweden in matters relating to child health care and the rehabilitation of the handicapped has culminated in the formation of a Swedish-Jordanian Medical Society (SJMS) to promote further exchange of experience and expertise between the two countries.

At a press conference Saturday marking the end of a workshop-seminar on "child health care and the rehabilitation of the handicapped," Jordanian and Swedish experts told journalists that the recommendations they came up with during the workshop revolved around four issues: the formation of the SJMS; social legislation for the handicapped; behavioral problems among handicapped children; and the rehabilitation of handicapped teenagers and adults.

During the press conference, which was held at the Radda Barnen Institute for Child Health Care and Development, Doctor Yusef Sayegh from the University of Jordan told reporters "the Swedish-Jordanian Medical Society aims to promote the exchange of science, know-how and experience in the field of specialised medicine and medical research, in an effort to raise the level of health care in Jordan."

The technical role of the society will be to transform the recommendations of the seminar into a work plan, Sayegh said.

The Health Ministry's Dr. Ihsan Rafat, head of the Committee for Social Legislation for the Handicapped, said that the committee reviewed the draft law relating to the handicapped in Jordan, and found that "some enforced laws contradict the rights of the handicapped, a factor which limits their ability to make use of available services."

"The handicapped are not able to make use of personal and educational services that enable them to overcome their handicap," the committee deduced, according to Rafat.

There is a shortage of specialised technical and training personnel which need to be boosted in both quality and quantity, Rafat said.

The committee made the following recommendations:

- The need to enact special legislation for the handicapped, to ensure their constitutional rights alongside other citizens.
- The need to have a higher committee to look after issues of the handicapped, which should be included in the law.
- The need to offer, whenever possible, free services for the handicapped, and to have all individual and group equipment and material exempted from customs duties.
- The need to make special-

ised technical personnel available and to give special attention to trainers for the handicapped.

— To provide all opportunities for the handicapped and to assist them in making use of available services and opportunities.

The committee also recommended "a reconsideration of the enforced laws pertaining to the handicapped as well as an amendment of the articles that are in contradiction with the rights of the handicapped, particularly the penal code," according to Rafat.

The committee entrusted with studying the services for handicapped teenagers and adults, estimated that the number of handicapped above the age of 16 in Jordan is 30,000.

The committee, according to its chairman Yusef Zu'not, head of the special education department at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development (MLSD), suggested the following steps to implement the committee's recommendations:

- Starting new vocational training courses in cooperation with schools of social work, the Vocational Training Corporation as well as government and private sector institutions.
- Initiating seminars and lectures on the rehabilitation of the handicapped by the MLSD.
- Providing technical equipment from government and private sources to specialised centres, to enable the handicapped to be more productive.

— Taking the necessary steps to prepare social legislation for approval as early as possible.

— Making more funds available to the Jordanian national aid fund and other organisations to widen the scope of services offered.

— Making more effective use of the labour law and the recommendations of the seminar to facilitate the employment of the disabled in government and private sectors.

— Appointing a committee to study the labour market and to follow up progress on the employment issue.

A third committee, which looked into behavioral problems among handicapped children, came up with the following recommendations, according to the committee's chairperson Mahasen Al Asry.

- Specialised centres should have a psychologist to help solve behavioral problems among handicapped children.
- Workshops should be conducted for staff working in centres so that experience and knowledge can be shared.
- Spreading information concerning behavioral problems of handicapped children through the media, is essential, especially for parents, teachers and other specialists who deal with handicapped children.
- Teams of specialists (including a psychologist, a social work-

er, a psychiatrist, a paediatrician, an educational psychologist and a specialist in behavioral problems) should deal with behavioral problems of handicapped children.

In cases of common problems among handicapped children, information should be spread through the media and to all sorts of specialists. In cases of rare problems, there is a need for specialised know-how among experts.

During the press conference, Swedish Ambassador to Jordan Lars Lonnback announced that upon invitation from Sweden, MSJD Undersecretary Dr. Mohammad Saqour will be making an official visit to Sweden in the next few months.

Representing their respective governments, both Lonnback and Saqour, expressed their appreciation and pleasure at the joint cooperation between the two countries.

The press conference was attended by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and a number of Jordanian and Swedish experts.

The joint Swedish-Jordanian seminar was sponsored by the Swedish pharmaceutical company, Pharmacia, and was organised by the MSJD, the Ministry of Health, the Swedish embassy, the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief (SOIR) and Radda Barnen.



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## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Protect capital goods

TO REMOVE any misunderstanding I have to confirm at the outset of the article my deep conviction that protection of domestic production is both inevitable and unavoidable. Local production can by no means compete with foreign industries that enjoy the economics of scale, and are directly or indirectly subsidised and dumped on foreign markets at any price.

However, the necessity for protection does not mean that it should not stop somewhere, or that no revision and reevaluation should be conducted from time to time to ensure that the desired results are being achieved, and that the protection is not adversely affecting the future economic growth or threatening potential investments.

There are of course no complaints as far as the protection of consumer goods are concerned. The consumers are required to pay the price and they have no choice but to oblige. Protection in this case could serve other desired purposes such as curbing or suppressing consumption and reducing the purchasing power of the public, and consequently reducing the aggregate demand and

narrowing the deficit gap in the external sector of the economy. However, protection in the field of capital goods is quite different. Consumers do not buy cement, glass, aluminium, steel, wood, pipes or paints etc., these items are capital goods; they form a major part of the cost of any new investment, especially the construction of houses, factories, offices, and other various utilities.

If the protection of consumer goods is a sort of taxation imposed on consumption, the protection of capital goods is a sort of taxation imposed on investments. Such taxation is apt to cause a rise in the cost of investments, which would result in affecting the feasibility of projects and the expected return on new potential investments, and accordingly the inhibition of capital formation.

Of course there must be advantages for any economic decision dictated by the government. However, we have always to ask: Who pays the price of these advantages? And, whether or not the advantages outweigh the negative, undesired and unwanted consequences. In certain cases the side-effects are much worse than the direct targeted results.

The late wood processing company would have been saved through a dose of high protection, but the government acted correctly when it decided to write it off. Hopefully the government will not reverse its decision. The current sharp rise in the prices of wooden products is not caused by a rise in the cost of manufacturing and processing. It was caused by the rise in the prices of raw materials.

We are definitely for the reasonable protection of consumer goods, provided the protection is calculated as a percentage of the domestic value added and not the value of the end product. Obviously, the imported components do not deserve any protection. It is also preferable to have a unified rate of customs protection for all goods. This is important in order to render protection neutral as far as relative prices are concerned to ensure that no distortions are created.

As far as capital goods are concerned, we call for a moderate and more conservative policies. Under no circumstances should we help an inefficient industry at the cost of killing investments that could otherwise be started.

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

## A nation fortified

THE assassination of Khalil Wazir (Abu Jihad), like the killing of so many other Palestinian leaders during the past two decades, is unlikely to change the course of events in the Middle East. Abu Jihad was a microcosm of the entire Palestinian national movement: He was a founding member of Fateh, and was deeply involved in Palestinian political and military activities since the mid-1960s. But since the mid-1970s, he has accepted the strategy of the mainstream Palestinian movements to maintain military pressure on Israel while exploring means of resolving the Arab-Israeli dispute on the basis of negotiations that would satisfy the national demands of both Israelis and Palestinians. He represented the realistic, pragmatic and honourable Palestinian majority which has sought to find a compromise that would resolve the Palestinian-Zionist conflict in a manner that was dignified and just. The fact that this approach has yet to yield results, and that Abu Jihad has paid with his life for his efforts, should wake up all concerned to the fact that a cycle of militarism and extremism is inevitable if the present conciliatory approach of the PLO and all the Arab states is not reciprocated by Israel and the United States.

It matters less who killed Abu Jihad than the fact of his death. Our inclination is to see the Israelis behind the killing, though others will blame extremist Palestinian or Arab groups who objected to Abu Jihad's policy. The fact is that extremists on all sides have reason to fear the moderation and pragmatism of Abu Jihad and his colleagues in the PLO. Israeli hardliners such as Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir are probably most concerned about the combination of the continuing uprising of the Palestinians under occupation and the unified policies of the factions within the PLO. It is such a combination of determined resistance and a clear national political strategy which Israelis fear most, because it emphasises the inevitability of a Palestinian national entity in Palestine, which in turn must force the Israelis to contain their exaggerated sense of territorial conquest in the region. What the assassins of Abu Jihad fail to understand is that the Palestinian national movement is not one of individuals who can be killed and forgotten; it is a national struggle of some five million people. Those five million are fortified today by the memory of Abu Jihad, and they will struggle with increased determination to achieve the national goals which Abu Jihad championed for so many years.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: A great symbol

THE military parade and pageantry organised in Amman Friday marking the 35th anniversary of King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers were among the most important festivals celebrated by the Jordanian people. These celebrations embody the great noble meanings of sacrifice by the Armed Forces and reflect the vast development of these forces over the years under King Hussein's rule. The parade represented the might of the Armed Forces and their determination to protect the principles and achieve the goals of the Great Arab Revolt. By displaying their skills, the troops, the paratroopers and all those taking part in the parade showed their combat capability and displayed their high skills and determination to serve as a shield for the Arab Nation. The parade re-enhanced self confidence in every Jordanian in the future and served as a reminder to us about the Armed Forces' great sacrifices in the different wars fought against the Israeli enemy since 1948. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's attendance, reflected Egypt's solidarity with Jordan, and emphasised the fact that all Arabs have the same future and the same destiny. The Jordanian family which congratulates the King on the anniversary, re-pledges to act under his wise guidance and serve as a fortress in the face of aggression, and to continue the struggle for regaining the usurped Arab land.

### Al Dustour: U.S. vetoes keep coming

AS the U.N. Security Council continues a debate over Israel's arbitrary actions in the occupied Arab territories, the Israeli authorities continue to step up a campaign of repression and intimidation against the Palestinians with total disregard to the council and its resolutions. There is no doubt that Israel's arrogance and disregard of the international community stems from the vast support and help it gets from the United States at the international forum. Israel continues to violate human rights and all international principles in dealing with the Palestinian Arabs, assured of a constant and unlimited support from Washington which condones the Jewish state's expansionist and terrorist policies in our region. Although the U.S. has openly declared its opposition to Israel's deportation of Arab citizens, reports from New York say that the U.S. representative at the Security Council has resorted to the right of veto to kill a resolution calling on Israel to stop such arbitrary measures. Such an American behaviour does not serve the cause of peace, but it would rather encourage terrorism and Israeli extremism. Backed by this American stand, Israel is now expected to place further obstacles in the path of a Middle East peace.

### Sawt Al Shaab: U.S. vetoes own initiative

THE United States vetoed a resolution at the U.N. Security Council which would have condemned Israel's inhuman practices in the occupied Arab territories. The veto came as the Arab people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were maintaining their resistance of Israel's occupation and carrying up a revolt for freedom. It also came as world organisations and peace loving nations continued to condemn Israel's actions against the Arab population in occupied Palestine, and its violations of human rights in the occupied territories. This veto clearly manifests the United States as a superpower that supports the deportation of Arabs from their homeland, accused of resisting occupation. It thus seems that Israel's acts of terrorism and violence in the occupied territories are being encouraged and backed by the United States against the will of the international community and in defiance of United Nations principles. We had hoped that the U.S. would join the other countries of the world in condemning Israel's actions, as by doing so it could regain some credibility for its moves designed to establish peace in the Middle East.

## Uprising transforms West Bank village

By Paul Taylor  
Reuters

EIN ARIK, West Bank — Residents of this lush farming village in the Israeli-occupied West Bank say they are living the most exciting days of their lives.

"Since the intifada (uprising) began, we are living the best moments of closeness and unity in the village," said Wadia, a spinner who farms olive and fruit groves above the valley where the sleepy village of 800 souls nestles, five kilometres west of Ramallah.

The Palestinian revolt that has swept the West Bank and Gaza Strip since last December 9 came late to Ein Arik, but it has galvanised life, forging new bonds between old and young, rich and poor, Christians and Muslims.

"Everybody is involved, everybody," Wadia said.

Ein Arik is not one of the militant hotbeds of the intifada. But it is typical of many previously quiet villages, proud of its modest contribution to the uprising.

"From the start, we obeyed every strike call. Some villagers who worked in Israel quit their jobs," said Musa, a teacher. "Things really began in February, when Jewish settlers attacked the village."

He said six carloads of gun-toting Israeli militants from the nearby settlement of Dolev went on the rampage in the village at night, smashing house and car windows and shooting in the air.

Asked what sparked the raid, he acknowledged Arab youths had stoned cars with yellow Israeli licence plates in previous days.

"The shebab (youths) were

waiting. When the settlers came, they rang the church bells and called people out from the mosque loudspeakers," recalled Shukri, a lawyer.

Hundreds of villagers came out and stoned the settlers, wrecking their cars and driving them out of the village.

"On the night we kicked out the settlers, we declared the village a 'liberated area'. The whole village stayed all night in the street. Morale was so high that an 80-year-old woman sang and danced in the road," Shukri said.

Villagers blocked roads with giant stone barricades, raised outlawed Palestinian flags over the mosque and the Greek Orthodox and Catholic churches, and took turns to keep watch for the army or settlers.

A popular committee of local nationalist activists, shrouded in secrecy to protect them from arrest, was formed to implement the directives of the clandestine Unified National Leadership of the Uprising.

Elation was tinged with apprehension. Dozens of young people went into hiding in the hills around Ein Arik, where caves and rugged terrain offer good camouflage.

When a large army force, some landed by helicopter, raided the village at dawn on March 2, they found only three of a list of dozens of suspected protesters.

This time there was no violence. Shukri said: "The village knows its limits. We cannot overcome the army like we overcame the settlers."

Young men sometimes sneak back home during the day but sleep out at night to avoid the

midnight call of soldiers and agents of Israel's feared Shin Bet security service.

### Outwitting Israelis

The youths can be summoned to the village by church bells. But when the army tried that method to lure them back and arrest them on March 30, it did not work.

"It was the wrong peal of bells. The shebab recognised it was a trick. Nobody came," chuckled Yousef, a farmer.

The clash with the settlers was only the start of the upheaval at Ein Arik.

In early March, three suspected collaborators, Palestinians accused of working as informers for the Shin Bet, turned over their Israeli-issued weapons and "repented". Village elders returned the guns to military headquarters in Ramallah.

The lynching of a collaborator in the West Bank village of Khatibiyeh on February 25 was a chilling warning to Arabs accused of working with the Israelis.

"One former collaborator even participated in the demonstration on Land Day (March 30)," Musa said.

Ein Arik's two mukhtars, Israeli-appointed village headmen, also resigned, handing their official seals back to the Israeli occupation authorities.

One mukhtar reportedly refused to escort a Shin Bet officer to arrest a suspected protester.

According to village lore, he told the secret policeman: "I would rather be shot by the army and have my people walk in my funeral than live like a king and die shunned by my own kin." Villagers say the mukhtar's

role was largely to assist the Israeli authorities with population data, and information on unlicensed construction, property and people's whereabouts.

"Since 1967 (when Israel occupied the West Bank), mukhtars did not serve the village but served the occupation," Shukri said.

The popular committee has taken over leadership of the village, although villagers are extremely reticent about its composition and influence.

"In big cities, there are leaders who are known and who dare to speak, not in small villages," Yousef said.

"But when the popular committee grabs the microphone of the mosque or the church bells and tells people there's a general strike today, everyone knows to obey," he added.

No resident of Ein Arik has died during the uprising but one was shot and wounded this month in an event underlining the suspicion and hostility on both sides.

Villagers say troops mistook an ordinary funeral for a demonstration and fired tear gas into the hillside cemetery. Mourners were incensed and stoned the soldiers after the burial, drawing gunfire in which an Arab teenager was shot in the leg.

Six residents of Ein Arik have been arrested. Two were released after 18 days without charges.

But villagers brush aside questions about the risk to their children's lives and liberty.

"No parent will tell a child not to demonstrate. They don't listen. What parents tell their children is: 'Be careful, God bless you,'" Wadia said.

## Proving the Palestinians' point

By Glenn Frankel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — With eight terse sentences in a press release, the Israeli army early this month took a major step toward restoring the border between Israel proper and the occupied territories that this country had been slowly but steadily erasing for the past 21 years.

The sweeping three-day restrictions on travel and press coverage announced in the statement were the toughest imposed yet by authorities groping for some formula to smother a nearly 4-month-old Palestinian uprising. They sealed off the Gaza Strip and West Bank, confining Arab residents to their homes or villages, preventing outsiders from entering and arresting hundreds.

Invisible lines suddenly reappeared. Roads, on which traffic once moved freely in and out of Israel across the "Green Line" into the West Bank, were blocked off by soldiers checking identity cards and licence plates and turning back Israelis as well as journalists. Motorists whose Israeli-made maps have not shown the border for the past decade wandered in confusion, not knowing if or when they were crossing the line and breaking the law.

For many Israelis and Arabs, the measures were a harbinger of things to come: More repression, but also increased separation between Arabs and Jews more barred wire — both physical and mental — and a retreat from Israel's long attempt to find an effective means of ruling the disaffected and rebellious 1.6 million Arabs of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

### Symbolic

"It was a very symbolic action by a defence establishment that really was expecting the worst this week," said defence commentator Hirsch Goodman. "What they ended up doing was making a de facto admission for the first time in 20 years that you can't live with the territories."

While civil libertarians and liberals generally condemned the crackdown and hawks supported it, there were also less predictable reactions that suggested many here understood the deeper significance of the restrictions. Several Palestinian activists actually welcomed the measures as a further step toward the re-separation of Israel and the territories.

"Who are the ones who make international phone calls and need gasoline for their private cars? These are the wealthier people, and the pain they are now feeling brings them closer to the common Palestinian. It's actually a beautiful thing the Israelis are doing."

For the same reason, many leaders of the Jewish settler community in the West Bank opposed the restrictions and some even defied the ban by smuggling journalists into the area, risking five years in prison. Settlers themselves were exempt from the travel ban.

"It looks to me like this was a very big flexing of muscles in order to separate Judea and Samaria from the rest of Israel and to isolate us from our fellow Israelis," said Eliakym Haetzni, one of the main philosophers of the settler movement, using the biblical term for the West Bank. "It's a make-believe performance of mighty efforts so that later on they can say they couldn't succeed and we'll simply have to get rid of the land."

The politician whom Haetzni most admires, former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, also criticised the restrictions, saying they were unnecessary and potentially dangerous. Sharon attempted to force a vote in Israel's policy-making inner cabinet on his own proposals for restoring order in the territories but was blocked by the leader of his own hawkish political party, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Sharon and Haetzni offer a simple solution to suppressing the

uprising, in which at least 118 Palestinians have been shot dead. They would expel dozens, perhaps hundreds, of alleged activists and their families; slam shut the doors of every Arab building society, trade union, professional group or student organisation advocating a Palestinian state; and bulldoze tens, perhaps hundreds, of houses in retaliation against stone and

beginning to realise that the tough sanctions of recent weeks — forcing merchants to close their shops each morning, cutting off phone lines, restricting gasoline supplies and travel — are alienating middle-class Palestinians who are Israel's potential negotiating partners.

Palestinian activist Mubarak Awad agreed, saying such measures are enhancing Arab unity. "Who are the ones who make international phone calls and need gasoline for their private cars?" he asked. "These are the wealthier people and the pain they are now feeling brings them closer to the common Palestinian. It's actually a beautiful thing the Israelis are doing."

But the army has little choice, given Israel's political stalemate and the lack of consensus for negotiation. So it continues with incremental measures — imprisoning hundreds, beating and shooting rioters, restricting where reporters can go — and redefining the old boundaries in an attempt to isolate the uprising.

That measure was taken because security officials said they feared that activists were planning a major outburst of violence to mark Land Day, a traditional Palestinian day. Officials said they were worried that the violence would spill over the line and create new links between the Palestinians of the territories and Israel's 750,000 Arab citizens.

It did not happen quite that way. The territories were indeed swept by a new wave of violence in which 40 Palestinians were killed and 60 wounded. But just a few miles away in Israel proper, within sight of West Bank villages, Israeli Arabs held a series of peaceful rallies demanding equal rights for themselves and an independent homeland next door for their Palestinian brethren.

The contrast was another indication that the Green Line is, after a long period of invisibility, increasingly real again — The Washington Post.

## 'Australia for Mideast peace'

The following are excerpts of a statement made by Mr. Bill Hayden, the Australian Minister for foreign relations and trade to parliament on March 17.

THE MIDDLE EAST is an area of primary trading importance to Australia, with two-way trade of almost \$3 billion last financial year.

During my visit (in 1987), I signed bilateral trade agreements with Jordan, Egypt and Israel.

These agreements will facilitate closer economic and trading relationships, an important aspect being the establishment of joint committees in which business will have a dynamic role.

In my trade discussions in the Middle East, I emphasised Australia's wish to strengthen and broaden our commercial relationship with the region beyond the present emphasis on commodity trade.

I was able to highlight the suitability of Australian technological expertise in a number of manufacturing and services areas of relevance to the region's development needs.

In addition, I was able to talk directly with customers in the \$309.7 million a year market for Australian wheat in Egypt and in the \$58.4 million Yemen Arab Republic market, for example, where our market share is under threat.

Moreover, at the meeting of heads of Australian missions in the Middle East — attended for the first time by senior officers of Austrade working in the region — we discussed integrated strategies to pursue Australian economic and political interests in the region.

Australia's influence on regional political events is naturally limited but we do have obligations and interests in these events.

One such development is the war between Iran and Iraq.

The continuation of this war threatens our important trading links with both countries.

It also imposes limits on our capacity to expand these links, it has to be said that the Iran-Iraq conflict is being complicated by

the involvement of several nations in the supply of arms to both combatants.

This is an obviously important factor militating against solution. It certainly emphasises the urgency and necessity of controls on conventional as well as nuclear weapons.

The conflict between Israelis and Arabs is especially significant to Australia.

Nearly half a million Australians of Jewish and Arab origin have a direct and often personal interest in this tragic and complex issue.

The issue was therefore the most significant in the subjects of my discussion with leaders in Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Israel and with Palestinian representatives.

In these discussions, I made clear our realisation that we were marginal participants in events and that we were therefore not in the business of pressing prescriptions on those who were central to the issue.

I made clear also Australia's strong view that the Shultz initiative and those of King Hussein and President Mubarak should be taken up as rare opportunities to begin the process of settlement.

I was able to convey directly to Shultz my impressions of the attitudes of leaders centrally involved and, in the light of these attitudes, to offer what I know our American friends appreciated as constructive suggestions.

While I was in Israel, I expressed to Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres (through a letter from our prime minister and in my own words) the deep concern felt in Australia — as a friend of Israel — about the continuing violence in the occupied territories.

I was able to see for myself in Gaza the legacy of hatred being created by the continuing inability of all involved to agree to solve the Palestinian issue through negotiations based on acceptance of the rights of Israel to exist within secure and recognised boundaries and of the Palestinians to self-determination.

## OPEN FORUM

### The Israeli dilemma

A HEATED debate is taking place now in the United States over the way American news media are handling the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories. Unlike previous debates on the issue of American media and the Middle East, this new wave of discussions is organised exclusively by Israeli government officials and pro-Israeli American Jewish organisations.

To a large extent, the basic configuration of this controversy reflects a growing uneasiness in the traditionally harmonious relations between Israel and American media. One senior Israeli government official has charged that the American news media are spreading "an impression in the United States ... that one side is a Goliath, which is Israel, and the David is the Palestinians ... and I think it is an absolute misrepresentation of what happened here."

For some members of the American Jewish community, news about Israeli shootings, beatings and arrests of unarmed Palestinians was harmful not only to the Israeli image, but to perceptions of Jews in general in the United States. A Time magazine poll last month revealed that non-Jews and Jews were very closely agreed that repressive Israeli practices against Palestinians in the occupied territories were likely to increase anti-Semitism in the United States. A Voice of America 30 minute report aired last month also echoed similar Jewish concerns about a lash-back that could potentially undermine a 40-year image of Jews and Israel as underdogs in national, regional and international conflicts.

On their part, the news media have remained largely on the defensive expressing their views solely on a reactive basis. In doing so, they were counting on a professional sense of objectivity and a moral sense of exposing evil wherever it is. Two months ago, when the uprising was still in its formative stages, Edward Grossman, president of NBC News, declared that "we did not cause the riots. When people see soldiers with guns against kids with stones, that has to have some effect." In other words, it is the nature of the act being conveyed rather than the channel it is conveyed through that matters.

Totally oblivious to the atrocious nature of acts perpetrated by its soldiers in the occupied Arab territories, the Israeli government has become addicted to the business of scapegoating, blaming the uprising one time on the media and another on outside elements. It has gone one step further by closing down the Palestinian Press Service in occupied Jerusalem and by banning newsmen's entry into the territories. By doing so, Israel hopes to "dampen" the spirit of the uprising without having to tamper with its basic positions of rejecting national Palestinian rights. But as the uprising approaches its fourth month with unyielding momentum, the Israeli ostrich-like behaviour of negating surrounding reality will eventually reach a dead end. So far, Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories and the staunch resistance of the uprising have produced convincing evidence that such behaviour is already stumbling.

Dr. Muhammad I. Ayish



## Lebanon enters 13th year of violence and bloodshed

By Diana Abdallah  
Reuter

BEIRUT — When civil war broke out in 1975, most Lebanese thought it would end in weeks.

Thirteen years and 176,000 deaths later, they tend to doubt if an end to the violence is near.

On April 13, 1975, a busload of Palestinians was ambushed in a suburb of Beirut.

About 30 Palestinians were killed in the attack, generally seen as the spark which ignited a bitter conflict between rival militias.

Since then the violence has cost an estimated 176,000 lives, maimed thousands, uprooted whole communities and cost billions of dollars in damage.

"The decor might have changed and maybe some of the actors, but the violence and the hatred go on. There is nothing on the horizon but more clouds," said a Muslim politician.

The Lebanese remain sceptical of a solution as the strife enters its 14th year. Scores of ceasefires and attempts by both local and foreign powers have not ended the fighting.

Israeli troops occupy part of the south of Lebanon, Syria, the main foreign power-broker, has 25,000 troops deployed in the eastern Bekaa, the north and west Beirut.

The rest of the country is split into "cantons" controlled by sectarian militias. State authority has seldom been weaker.

All eyes are now on presidential polls before Sept. 23, when President Amin Gemayel ends his six-year term.

"If reconciliation is not achieved by the time the election is over, every Lebanese must face up to the fact that his country will not see salvation in the near future," said one Beirut.

Joint mediation by the United States and Syria aimed at giving Muslims a bigger say in government now seems the only hope for reconciliation. But l'Orient du Jour newspaper has described efforts so far as a "futile exercise."

Attempts to find a political solution have been deadlocked since 1986, when Gemayel refused to endorse a Syrian-sponsored peace plan. This aimed to end the war by giving Muslims more say in the political system, which favours the minority Christians.

Syria has since boycotted Gemayel and is now trying to ensure the election of a president who will not challenge its role in the war-torn country.

The Muslims have grown in number and power since Lebanon's unwritten covenant of 1943 which reserved the presidency for a Christian and stipulated that the prime minister should be a Muslim.

They want more influence in government, reorganisation of the army, a ban on its involvement in internal clashes and a firm policy against Israel.

### Air of gloom

Political sources said there was scant evidence of a break in the political impasse. An air of gloom hovers amid fears of fresh violence.

Clashes across the green line dividing the capital into mainly Christian east and predominantly Muslim west have been more verbal than violent this year. Artillery duels which had become a feature of the war have been few.

But the hallmarks of strife have not been erased: numerous checkpoints across the country, sand barricades splitting cities and districts and a long-lasting economic crisis.

Since 1975, alliances have shifted, militia groups have come and gone, governments have changed, myriad peace plans have been proposed and the country has been occupied by various foreign powers. But no one has been able to end the killing.

"After 13 years of war we feel like a football being kicked around by the various teams in a never-ending game," said a banker.

"They have all failed to score and only succeeded in battering the ball."



HOMES THAT WERE: Beitla villagers search through their belongings among the ruins of one of the 14 homes blown up by the Israeli army last week after the death of an Israeli girl in clashes between villagers and Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank village. A subsequent investigation has found

that the girl was killed by a bullet from a gun fired by an Israeli settler. The demolition of the Palestinian homes was part of the Israeli army's "collective punishment" against the village for the death of the girl.

## Jackson apologises to Jews, says Jerusalem should be international city

NEW YORK (Agencies) —

Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson apologised Friday night for calling Jews "hymies" but refused to break openly with a black extremist who once called Hitler "a great man."

In a television interview his campaign said was designed to mend fences with Jews, Jackson also said Jerusalem should be an international city, jointly ruled by Palestinians and Israelis.

The stand has angered Jews, who make up a quarter of voters in next Tuesday's New York primary.

He spoke as a new poll said he was gaining on front-runner Michael Dukakis and a top campaign aide for the Massachusetts governor said the race was much closer than the polls showed.

In the interview, Jackson re-

fused to break openly with black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan, who has called Judaism "a gutter religion" in addition to saying Hitler was a great man.

Jackson, a black civil rights leader, said Farrakhan had no involvement in his campaign and he had no public dealings with him. But when pressed about why he had not broken openly with Farrakhan, Jackson said: "It's not necessary."

Jackson also said he envisioned Jerusalem as "an international city, a city that will attract people from the three great religions."

He said he favoured rule being shared by both Israelis and Palestinians. "It could very well be shared rule," he said. "It is an international city."

In the interview, Jackson again apologised for calling Jews "hymies," a remark that created a furor when he made it in 1984

and still continues to haunt him now.

"Any statement I may have made to offend or hurt anybody, I'm sorry. Because that's not good. And that's not my highest, truest and best self."

On Thursday, an ABC news poll gave Dukakis 49 per cent to 34 per cent for Jackson and eight per cent for longshot Albert Gore, a Tennessee Senator, while a CBS poll gave Dukakis 45 per cent, Jackson 28 per cent and Gore eight per cent.

But Friday, a one-day ABC tracking poll showed Dukakis dropping to 44 per cent, with 37 per cent for Jackson and 10 per cent for Gore.

The Jewish Press, New York City's largest circulation Jewish weekly, endorsed Gore Friday, calling on all Jews to vote in Tuesday's New York primary as "the only way to stop Jackson."

### 'Kiss of death'

At the United Nations, Arab League spokesman said Friday he would rather not comment on the U.S. presidential race because it could be a "kiss of death" for a candidate.

"If an Arab at this moment gives any political judgment, that might end up as a kiss of death for whoever the presidential candidate is," Ambassador Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League's U.N. observer, told a news conference.

But alluding to candidates' views on Israel and the Middle East, he said:

"From the political literature that has emerged in the last few weeks, one would feel that this is a debate in the Knesset (Israeli parliament) rather than presidential candidates."

"And perhaps not only the Knesset, but sometimes one would fear, like Senator Gore and others, that it was a debate within the Likud Party."

He was referring to the party of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who met Gore during a recent visit to the United States.

## Mahdi resigns, to name new government tomorrow

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi said Saturday he had submitted his resignation to the Supreme Council, a five-man joint presidency.

He told parliament that he hoped to form a new national unity government by Monday.

Mahdi came to office in May 1986 after Sudan's first democratic elections in nearly two decades.

Mahdi did not say when he submitted his resignation but local press reports said the Supreme Council received it Wednesday.

The prime minister's office had denied the reports Thursday.

Mahdi, whose speech to parliament lasted less than 10 minutes, said he had also asked the council to relieve his cabinet from duty.

It was not immediately clear whether the largely ceremonial council had accepted his resignation. Mahdi said it was considering acting in a way that would prevent a constitutional vacuum but did not elaborate.

Four days earlier, parliament voted overwhelmingly in favour of Mahdi's blueprint for a national unity government to tackle the country's problems.

The vote cleared the way for Mahdi's Umma Party and the Democratic Unionist Party, main partners in a shaky coalition since May 1986, to join forces with the

militant National Islamic Front and southern Sudanese parties.

Mahdi told parliament that consultations between political parties had ended successfully.

He wants to form a national unity government to tackle the country's economic plight, worsened by a huge foreign debt, and to end a civil war raging in the south since 1983.

Rebels from the mainly animist and Christian south are fighting to overthrow what they say is the rule of a minority Muslim clique



Sadeq Al Mahdi in the north.

## More mines found in Gulf; U.S. weighs anti-Iran action

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — U.S. navy divers detonated five mines in the central Gulf Friday and Saturday and U.S. minesweepers and helicopters searched for more as an American warship damaged by a mine limped towards port.

In Bahrain, shipping executives said that a navigational hazard area has been declared within a 16-kilometre area around the site of Thursday's explosion.

Western diplomats and the executives are convinced that Iran recently laid the mines.

"The shipping channel is frequented by the U.S. navy and the implication is that the Iranians have laid the mines for the Americans," one of the executives told the AP.

U.S. assesses options

In Washington, President Reagan met with top advisers Friday to discuss whether to retaliate against Iran, the Washington Post reported Saturday.

Reagan decided to assess military options rather than act on any of them, the newspaper said.

Reagan weighed options ranging from a show of force by

sending the battleship USS New Jersey to the region, to launching a retaliatory strike against a long list of possible targets, the Post said.

Reagan, the newspaper said, met with Vice-President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz, Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci and Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to weigh possible responses to the attack.

U.S. officials, according to the paper, said one reason a military strike was not ordered was the lack of hard evidence that Iran laid the mines.

However, U.S. navy minesweepers searching the Gulf Friday near the explosion that damaged the 3,700-tonne Samuel B. Roberts found mines at the scene of the incident and determined they had been made in Iran in 1987, the Post said.

Asked Friday if Washington had determined who planted the mine and others spotted by the ship just before the explosion, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said: "No, we have not."

## U.S. sets plans to sell Egypt tanks worth \$2b

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

The Reagan administration has formally notified Congress that it would go ahead with a plan to sell 555 battle tanks to Egypt for an estimated \$2 billion.

Under Friday's proposal, which Congress has 30 days to study before it would go into effect, Egypt would coproduce as many as 540 of the tanks, America's main M-1A1 battle tank, under contract from General Dynamics Corp.

The Defence Department said in a brief statement that Egypt, which is trying to build up its defence industry, needs the weapons to replace obsolete Soviet equipment and to ensure regional stability in the Middle East.

"This sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country which has been and continues to be an important force for stability and peace in the Middle East," the statement said.

The United States and Egypt last month signed an arms re-

search memorandum that put the Arab state on the same weapons development cooperation level with Washington as Israel and NATO allies.

The Pentagon said Egypt needed to be strong in the face of growing Libyan military might.

The Reagan administration has accused Libya of supporting world "terrorism."

Under the tank proposal, General Dynamics would first produce some tanks and send them to Cairo and would later send M-1A1 parts to Egypt for assembly.

Technology held back:

Answering fears voiced by some members of Congress, Pentagon officials told Reuters last month that some technology secrets on the tank would not be given to Egypt.

"Despite agreements, we provide defence information to countries only on a case-by-case basis," said one of the officials. "Certain technology would never leave this country."

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

### King reaffirms national stand

(Continued from page 1)

this occasion.

"I feel honoured to have served this Arab country and this nation all through these years, a country destined to encounter and confront challenges, and take pride in bearing the standards of the Great Arab Revolt whose leaders spared no effort and sacrifice in their defence of this Arab Nation and protecting its interests."

"This country, which inherited the Great Arab Revolt's mission, is destined to confront the forces of evil and injustice which are active these days, aiming to destroy our nation in the eastern flank of the Arab World."

"These evil forces, together with Israel, are hoping to form a pincer movement with Israel holding the first handle in Palestinian land occupied since 1967 and trying desperately to abort the Palestinian people's uprising."

"Israel is trying to stifle the spirit of Arab resistance in the Holy City of Jerusalem and the Holy Al Aqsa Mosque where the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein fell as martyr, and in the birthplace of Jesus Christ and in Gaza, the refugee camps, the West Bank and the occupied Syrian Golan Heights."

"The other hand of the pincer movement is being held in harmony with Israel and its ambitious goals by the Iranian rulers who are trying to revive the Persian empire. In the name of religion they are trying to destroy the Arab Order and to regain their dominion over the Gulf region and its territory and its oil, and the holy places in Mecca and Medina."

"As we go along with our endeavour to achieve consensus and agreement within the Arab Nation and as we pursue our efforts to remove all elements of differences among Arab countries and unite the nation I feel proud that our Armed Forces have realised so many great achievements; I feel proud to have the elite of the Arab youth serving within the ranks of the Armed Forces acquiring a high level of training and skills, backed by a People's Army, the civil defence and the security

forces and equipped with the most up-to-date weapons, forming a shield defending the nation in the face of ambitious aggressors."

"This nation has showed to the world at large that it is unanimous in its demand for an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East, a peace that can be honourable and acceptable to the coming generations, a peace that would lead to an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land occupied since 1967. This conference is needed to resolve the Palestine problem in all its aspects to enable the Palestinian people to determine their own future on their own soil in implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Since we are supported by the world we will abide by our stand which is known to all and which we will never change."

"We in Jordan will never negotiate on behalf of the Palestinian people or their representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)."

"But we will take part in the projected international conference as an independent sovereign state. We do not mind taking part in the conference within a joint delegation comprising Jordanians and Palestinians if the Arab countries and the Palestinian people accept this arrangement."

"We will continue to provide all possible help to the Palestinian people hoping they will realise and be assured that we have no objective or purpose or ambition except to assist them to attain their national goals and regain their legitimate rights in their own land."

"We never had any hope or purpose or objective to strain through the Palestinians or their land; this has been our stand since the leader of the Great Arab Revolt, Hussein Ibn Ali, announced his movement and since the Arab forces moved for rescuing Al Aqsa Mosque, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the West Bank in 1948 under the leadership of his son, the late King Abdullah and until today."

"I hold with pride the great honour extended to me on this occasion by the Armed Forces and all who took part in the parade and the Jordanian family at large."

### Abu Jihad assassinated in Tunis

(Continued from page 1)

The victims were Mohammed Najjar, Kamal Nasser and Kamal Adwan.

Najjar, codenamed Abu Yousef, was one of the founders of Fateh and the head of its military branch. Nasser was a member of the PLO Executive Committee and Adwan was responsible for activities in the occupied territories.

Since then a number of Palestinian leaders have been killed in cities in Europe and the Middle East.

In the most recent violence, three members of Fateh's military branch were killed Feb. 14 in Limassol, Cyprus.

Wazir's wife Intissar was quoted by a PLO representative as saying:

"Abu Jihad was at home. He heard the sound of a siren when the commando killed the guards. He went outside and came face to face with them."

Shouting for help from a balcony, she said she counted nine attackers who fled in two mini-buses.

### 6 killed in truck mishap

(Continued from page 1)

from the uprising and the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories and was executed in the service of hostile parties who recruited those traitor agents to carry out such a heinous crime against this nation and its citizens."

The driver of the water tanker and his companion, both from the Civil Defence Department, were killed instantly as they crashed into the building after the tanker hit and killed four people and injured eight others.

Eyewitnesses told the Jordan Times they saw the water tanker speeding down the narrow road from the First Circle towards downtown. They said the driver was waving to people in the street to get out of the way before he was seen crashing into the building and overturning.

The driver was identified as Suleiman Tawalbeh and his assistant as Mazen Ahmad Falah. Three of the bystanders killed

were identified as Musa Battah, Salem Fawzi Bata — an engineer — and Mohammad Ahmad Khalaf. The sixth victim could not be immediately identified.

One eyewitness said the tanker driver "sacrificed his own life in order to save the lives of as many people as possible."

Municipal officials told the Jordan Times they were worried that the fire would spread and burn important documents at the municipality.

Two busloads of anti-riot police were called to the scene to keep people away as rescue workers tried to get the smashed bodies trapped underneath the tanker.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan visited the scene of the crash and later the sight of the car explosion in the parking lot of the municipal building.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai later arrived at the scene and met at the municipality's offices with the Crown Prince and other Cabinet members and officials.

### Hijackers threaten massacre

(Continued from page 1)

issued a statement saying the government would continue to seek a peaceful settlement which "preserves the firm principles which Kuwait has persisted in pursuing and sticking to."

The hijackers killed two Kuwaiti hostages during a stop in Cyprus. Three members of the Kuwaiti royal family are among the estimated 31 remaining hostages.

Earlier Saturday, the hijackers were heard telling the control tower that they wanted to hold a news conference with three journalists inside the plane but no photographers.

Reporters selected representatives among themselves.

The journalists, from Algerian radio, the New York Times newspaper and the French news agency, Agence France Presse, were told to bring identity cards and tape-recorders but no cameras.

Meanwhile, Nayef Hawatmeh, head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, was seen near the Algiers airport VIP lounge, told reporters: "This hijacking must stop immediately because it is distracting the attention of all the mass media."

The mass media must go the correct way and concentrate all attention on the Israeli occupation."

He did not explain his presence here or indicate whether he was participating in the negotiations.

There was no indication that the Algerian mediation effort had advanced. One hostage was freed "for strictly humanitarian reasons" since

the plane landed here early Wednesday.

The day began with the hijackers showing concern about conditions on the plane. They queried maintenance work on the four system, complained about a food-sending trolley and insisted on the air conditioning plant being topped up with kerosene.

They also asked the authorities to remove broken glass from around the wheels, suggesting they might want to move the aircraft at a later stage.

Their preoccupation with technical details formed an uneasy backdrop to a single visit to the plane by an Algerian negotiator Saturday morning.

Algerian authorities heralded the visit by radioing the hijackers that "someone wants to talk to you."

The negotiator, a man dressed in a light brown suit, went aboard the plane for about 23 minutes.

Late Friday night, Algeria denied it guaranteed that hostages aboard the aircraft would be freed when the plane reached Algiers, reinforcing a sense of stalemate in negotiations as the crisis entered its 12th day.

In Beirut, a top Shi'ite militia official denied Saturday that Hassan Izzuddin, sought by the United States for a 1985 hijacking in which a U.S. navy diver was killed, was on board the hijacked airliner at Algiers.

The official, closely linked with Hizbollah, told Reuters that Izzuddin was in the Bourj Al Barajneh area of Beirut's mainly Shi'ite southern suburbs, where he lives.

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# World Bank may ease repayments

WASHINGTON (AP) — Proposals on reductions and easier terms for the poorest borrowing countries in paying their debts to the World Bank were announced Friday by President Barber Conable.

One proposal would have saved about 40 countries from Bangladesh to Zambia \$56.4 million if it had been in effect in the year that ended last June 30, spokesman Bill Brannigan said.

Conable said in a speech that he expects this to be approved by the 151 governments that own the bank. It would remove a fee of 0.5 per cent on loans promised but not yet disbursed.

He added that he also had proposed new terms to ease the burden of the debt and increase flows from the bank.

The version of his speech distributed to reporters did not say "that the new terms would be. They could include longer repayment periods: For example, a loan repayable in 15 years might be stretched to 20. Another possibility is the lengthening of grace periods during which only interest, and not principal, is repaid."

The bank authorised about \$17.5 billion in loans last year and

ports and new loans. In a report to the committee, Conable said the overriding issue is to reduce that burden. Otherwise Third World countries will start reducing their payments, he warned.

The same meeting heard an optimistic speech from U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker. In 15 heavily indebted "middle-income" countries, export earnings have risen sharply and imports have increased, he said.

"But this must be a joint effort of all the major parties involved," he said. "We look to others to contribute their resources in the search for such solutions."

Conable was speaking to the joint development committee of the bank and its sister organisation, the International Monetary Fund. It was the final day of a week's semi-annual meetings behind closed doors.

Third World debt is rising, expected to total \$1.245 trillion at the end of 1988. But there is widespread agreement that these countries need still more loans to help develop them out of their poverty, especially since they paid out \$29 billion more for imports and in debt payments last year than they took in from ex-

ports and new loans.

rest rates on others, especially for Africa. The U.S. government has been resisting interest rate reduction for the poorest countries, contending that it would give a bad example for middle-income countries. It has not made any conversions to grants.

Bert Kull, a spokesman at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), said it could do neither without Congress passing a law.

Baker did not mention these subjects in the published version of his speech.

"The U.K. (United Kingdom) alone has written off getting on for half a billion dollars of African aid loans since 1979," Lawson said. "Many other ... countries have done the same."

He called the problem "painfully simple."

"All of us know that there is no way in which the poorest countries can meet their interest payments ... the interest burden thus mounts exponentially and the poorest countries are thus caught in a vicious circle. It is frankly unrealistic to imagine that their debts will ever be serviced and repaid in full at market rates of interest," he concluded.

## Insurance premiums top JD 55m in 2 years

AMMAN (J.T.) — Insurance companies operating in Jordan collected a total of JD 55,456,000 in premiums during 1986 and 1987, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic newspaper.

The report said that JD 28,681,000 were collected during 1987, and the rest in the previous year.

Of the total sum, JD 4,476,000 were premiums for maritime insurance, JD 3,154,000 for insurance against fire, JD 12,165,000 for insurance on cars, JD 2,438,000 for insurance on other accidents and JD 4,542,000 insurance on life.

The paper said that insurance companies paid compensation totalling JD 12,573,000 for beneficiaries in the past two years.

## East-West joint ventures doubled in '87

GENEVA (R) — Joint ventures in the East Bloc doubled last year, and should expand further as the Soviet Union and its allies make investment terms even more attractive to Western firms, a U.N. study has said.

The report, "East-West Joint Ventures," said there were 91 new joint ventures registered last year, bringing the total to 166. This compared with 75 at the end of 1986, and only five at the end of 1981.

The total value of pledged foreign investment in the East Bloc states was now about \$500 million, the 189-page study by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) in Geneva said.

"There was clearly a surge of interest in this type of cooperation," Gerald Hinteregger, executive secretary of the ECE told a news briefing.

"It is expected that in terms of numbers, the formation of new joint ventures will accelerate," he added.

The Soviet Union, where legislation went into force in January 1987 making joint ventures possible for the first time in the post-war period, further relaxed its regulations last September. New, more flexible legislation is expected in Poland and Czechoslovakia by the end of 1988.

Hungary, the first East Bloc state to open up to joint ventures (in 1986), led with 111 projects, followed by the Soviet Union with 19 by year-end.

Preliminary figures through the end of March showed the cumulative total had risen to 33 projects registered in the Soviet Union, including five with other Socialist states.

Bulgaria has won 15 joint ventures so far, followed by Romania with five and Czechoslovakia with three.

East Germany is the only of the seven European members of the Moscow-led Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon) not to pass legislation allowing joint ventures.

"They are holding out," one ECE official told Reuters.

## Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, April 9, '88 and ending Wednesday, April 13, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
<b>Banking and financial institutions</b>					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Petra Bank	300	585	2.000	1.950	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	959	1585	1.650	1.650	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	11272	13104	1.180	1.160	1.000
Housing Bank	2403	4013	1.670	1.670	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	10	300	30.000	30.000	5.000
Bank of Jordan	2230	33639	15.000	15.200	5.000
Arab Bank	370	42196	114.000	114.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank for Development	3735	9191	2.460	2.460	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	10370	12033	1.100	1.200	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	900	1460	1.880	1.880	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	5150	2853	0.560	0.550	1.000
National Financial Investments	10220	18589	1.820	1.820	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	7274	5279	0.750	0.730	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	10100	13128	1.320	1.260	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	4492	3550	0.870	0.790	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	2.000	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	10.000	10.000
<b>Insurance and reinsurance</b>					
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
RESCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	300	298	1.000	0.990	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	2200	2357	1.080	1.060	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Philadelphus Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	500	470	0.920	0.940	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	500	630	1.280	1.260	1.000
Universal Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	10.000	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	10.000	10.000
Al-Izdihar Insurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	1950	2516	1.280	1.290	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
<b>Services and industries</b>					
General Investments	500	650	1.320	1.300	1.000
Iama for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Deero for Housing and Investment	16805	7124	0.430	0.430	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	1050	417	0.390	0.400	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	4543	1408	0.320	0.310	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	54	41	0.800	0.750	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	52869	8024	0.660	0.650	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	1500	400	0.780	0.760	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	3305	653	0.260	0.190	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	1597	2299	1.440	1.440	1.000
Irbit District Electricity	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	1680	1367	0.830	0.810	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	150	525	3.500	3.500	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	4450	1666	0.380	0.370	1.000
Jordan Dairy	3860	3860	1.000	1.000	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	1070	2036	1.880	1.950	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	152170	201984	1.400	1.350	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	5063	11139	2.200	2.200	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	9605	12771	1.520	1.330	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	450	1750	4.100	3.950	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Aladdin Industries	21800	29515	1.360	1.350	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	28550	49500	1.760	1.760	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	4552	19376	4.250	4.300	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	2150	2181	1.050	1.010	1.000
Chemical Industries	4850	7876	1.630	1.630	1.000
Jordan Industries and March (JIMCO)	5400	3597	0.680	0.670	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	2017	2865	1.450	1.420	1.000
National Steel Industries	60506	164683	2.690	2.790	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	18000	30017	1.660	1.660	5.000
General Mining	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5678	39801	7.050	7.010	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	182950	38680	0.220	0.210	1.000
National Industries	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	100	33	0.360	0.330	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	5445	6637	1.250	1.250	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	1200	902	0.760	0.750	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	11864	13526	1.160	1.140	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	2302	6975	3.000	3.050	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	84360	47164	0.580	0.570	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Tanning	416	811	1.930	1.950	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Mis Industries	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	1.000	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	12020	11900	1.000	0.990	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	64066	55959	0.890	0.880	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	22700	55656	2.670	2.720	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	30934	32039	1.040	1.040	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	2100	2037	0.990	0.970	1.000
<b>Grand total</b>		909,960	1,047,662		

## U.N. warns of famine, food shortages

JAKARTA (R) — Famine is again threatening Africa and millions of people in Asia and Latin America face food shortages, the World Food Council of the United Nations warned Friday.

A report by the council said food consumption levels per person declined significantly in developing countries in 1987.

"Earlier progress in fighting hunger, malnutrition and poverty has come to a halt or is being reversed in many parts of the world," the report, prepared for a ministerial meeting of the council in Cyprus next month, said.

Alain Vidal-Naquet, head of the World Food Council's external relations, said at a news conference that a new initiative was needed to help channel assistance to developing countries hit by famine, locust plagues and drought.

The report said that more than 10 African countries faced famine.

"While the tragic experience of the widespread African famine in the early 1980s is still vividly alive in our memories, famine is threatening again millions of people in Africa," it said.

"The effects of drought and/or

civil strife threaten the survival of parts of the populations of Angola, Chad, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and other countries in sub-Saharan Africa," it stated.

"In Ethiopia, the number of people in need of emergency food relief continues to grow at an alarming rate, according to reports by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations," the council said.

"In the Tigray province alone, the current number of some 800,000 people receiving emergency relief is expected to almost double in the next few months, and sharp increases in relief requirements are predicted in Eritrea, Hararge, Wollo, north-eastern Shoa and eastern Gondar, where last year's crops were sharply reduced."

It said that up to one million people could need help in Malawi because of poor harvests. In Mozambique, where the emergency had deepened further, more than three million displaced people required assistance, and a further one to two million people in Angola.

Poor roads, clogged ports and

the huge distances involved impeded relief efforts, along with guerrilla activity in several parts of Africa, the report stated.

It said Kampuchea, Laos and Sri Lanka in Asia and Fiji, in the Pacific, faced food shortages or hardships because of drought, while Bangladesh would have to import a record three million tonnes of cereals because of damage from floods.

"In Latin America, drought and below-average rainfall are seriously affecting the food situation in El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua, and parts of Brazil. In Nicaragua, food shortages are widespread and the drought-affected population is now estimated at 52,000."

It said that two-thirds of children in the Indian sub-continent and one-third of those in South East Asia were malnourished, against about a quarter in Africa, and five to 10 per cent in Latin America and the Middle East.

"Malnutrition and disease caused the unnecessary deaths of some 14 million children under five every year during the first half of this decade," the report stated.

"The transfer of food will not solve the problem," he said. He said the United States and Western Europe were spending billions of dollars a year on storing surplus food, money which could be used to help grow food in Africa.

The report highlighted low-cost approaches to fighting malnutrition and vitamin deficiencies, which it said could be introduced more widely.

## IMF rejects central role in world debt solution

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Friday ruled out becoming the central player in a global solution to the debt crisis.

IMF officials, in a communique issued following a meeting of the

policy-making Interim Committee and in discussions with reporters, made clear there was no support for the formation of a global debt facility.

There have been a number of proposals in recent months that governments or the IMF form a pool of funds that could buy existing debt from desperate debtor nations at a discount.

"There was no support within the Interim Committee for any kind of global debt facility, or discount facility, of any nature," Interim Committee Chairman Onno Ruding told reporters.

At the same time, officials said there had been some changes in the system for dealing with the debt crisis, which has occupied the IMF and global economic policy-makers for six years.

Ruding attempted to deflect questions about the plummeting U.S. stock market that stunned finance ministers and central bankers attending the spring meeting of the IMF and World Bank.

He said the Interim Committee

had been concentrating its efforts on long-range problems rather than short-term cataclysms in the markets.

The communique "noted that economic activity appeared to have been relatively well sustained in industrial countries in spite of the decline in stock markets."

Ruding told reporters he saw no reason to change the view that the global economy appeared to have shaken off the worst of last October's stock market crash, despite the sudden retreat Thursday.

The markets Friday seemed to calm a bit with investors having a chance to digest the impact of a government report, showing the U.S. trade deficit had worsened again.

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## Texaco to sell \$5b of assets

NEW YORK (R) — Texaco Inc., which emerged from bankruptcy last week, said Friday it would raise the amount of assets it plans to sell to \$5 billion from \$3 billion as part of its reorganisation plan.

Texaco also said it would resume paying quarterly dividends of 75 cents a share.

Texaco said proceeds from the sale of assets, including oil producing, manufacturing and marketing holdings, will be used to reduce debt, improve cash flow and fund a possible share buyback and other actions.

### AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Saturday April 16, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
<b>Regular market:</b>	143764	JD 217683	148
<b>Top three companies:</b>			
National Steel Industries	28200	JD 78841	27



## America's Cup defenders bet on catamarans

MOJAVE, California (AP) — America's Cup defenders admit they are taking a calculated risk in making their defense of the sailing trophy on sophisticated but untested catamarans.

The San Diego Yacht Club, holder of the America's Cup, has commissioned construction of two nearly-identical catamarans. Each will have 60-foot (18.2-metre) hulls set about 30 feet (9.1 metres) apart.

One of them will use a 90-foot (27-metre) wing-like mast, which is under construction here in the Mojave Desert Lab of Burr Rutan, designer of the experimental aircraft Voyager.

The catamaran chosen to defend the cup will meet New Zealand banker Michael Fay's 120-foot-long (36.5-metre) sloop in a September race series off San Diego, California.

"We've pushed the design so far, we're beyond our experience realm," said Gino Morrelli who is heading hull construction for the catamarans at a San Juan Capistrano Boatyard, about 96 kilometres north of San Diego.

The Stars and Stripes Cup defense team is committed to engineering, dimensions and technology never before tested, except on computer.

"There's always the chance that what the computer says doesn't work," said David Hubbard, a catamaran designer working on the wing-sail at Rutan's aircraft yard in Mojave, about

160 kilometres northeast of Los Angeles.

Among the boat's peculiarities: A hull half the depth and width than would be considered normal for its 90-foot (27-metre) length, possibly resulting in the boat being easily overpowered by moderate winds and capsizing.

Light-weight composite materials in much of the wing-sail that could easily be damaged by a sailor's fist or a buoy. The wing-sail is designed much like an airplane wing, but with wires and lines controlling its shape.

In going with the catamaran, San Diego Yacht Club has taken the opposite tack as Fay, whose massive sloop has a 154-foot (47-metre) carbon-fibre mast.

"We went for engineering elegance, which is more efficient and creates less drag," said design coordinator John Marshall. "Fay's creating a big problem with a large boat and trying to get a big motor to overcome it."

Rutan said the wing-sail is more complicated structurally than the voyager, which his brother, Dick, flew around the world with Jeanna Yeager, without stopping for fuel, an aviation first.

The wing-sail is divided into three parts: A solid front section of carbon fiber, then two back sections that pivot and twist to manipulate carbon fiber ribs under a mylar-like scrim sheets. "It is so much more difficult we

don't understand how evolution allowed humans to be able to sail before flying," he said, half in jest.

Until Friday, Cup holders had said only that they were building a catamaran and another unspecified multihull.

The catamarans are expected

to be christened May 22 in San Diego in a ceremony off the Broadway Pier.

Slipper Dennis Comer and his team would then begin training in the catamarans, testing to see what the optimum spread of the two hulls is and testing the wing-sail against a traditional cloth sail.



New Zealand — ready for sail

## UEFA bans Koeman for three matches

GENEVA (R) — PSV Eindhoven's influential Libero Ronald Koeman is to miss the second leg of the Dutch club's European Cup semifinal against Real Madrid because of suspension.

The European Football Union (UEFA) has banned Koeman for three matches because of remarks attributed to him in a magazine interview. He would also miss the European final if PSV overcame Real. They draw the first leg 1-1 in Madrid and clash in the return Wednesday.

UEFA, announcing the suspension Saturday, said in a statement after a control and disciplinary committee meeting in Zurich that the three-match ban would apply to UEFA club competitions.

The punishment was for Koeman's "unsporting and disloyal remarks" made in an interview with the monthly Dutch magazine "Sport International," the statement said.

PSV Eindhoven was censured as clubs were responsible for the behaviour of players.

An appeal must be lodged by midnight April 19, UEFA said. Koeman had earlier been asked by the governing body of European soccer to explain his public support of a team-mate's foul on Bordeaux midfielder Jean Tigana in a European Cup tie last month.

Koeman was quoted by the magazine as saying the yellow card incurred by Hans Gillhaus for a foul on Tigana in the quarter-final first leg tie on March 2 was "worth gold."

PSV subsequently beat Bordeaux on the away goals rule to earn their semifinal real.

## Convicted soccer players plan to appeal

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — Two of Britain's top soccer players were considering Saturday whether to appeal their convictions stemming from a fight during a match between two arch-rival clubs.

Terry Butcher and Chris Woods, members of the Glasgow Rangers who also play for England's national team, were found guilty Friday of disorderly conduct and breach of the peace in fights during last October's 2-2 draw with Celtic.

"The two convicted players are very disappointed and are considering an appeal," Len Murray, a lawyer for Rangers, said.

The case was among the first in Britain in which athletes were brought to trial on charges stemming from on-the-field incidents and led to sharp criticism from some soccer officials.

The Sheriff Court said it could not prove charges of disorderly conduct and breach of the peace against a third Rangers' player, Graham Roberts, a fourth player, Frank McAvennie of Celtic, was acquitted of the same charges.

## IAAF calls for Budd ban

LONDON (AP) — Britain was told Saturday to either ban Zola Budd from running for at least a year or risk having its entire track and field team barred from the Olympic games.

The international rulers of track and field said British track authorities should suspend Budd for at least 12 months for a "breach of the spirit of the rules" outlawing contact with her native South Africa.

The Seoul Olympics are set for September, so a one-year ban would keep Budd out of the games. Black African nations have talked of boycotting Seoul if Budd, who obtained a British passport four years ago, runs there.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) gave the British Amateur Athletics Board (BAAB) 30 days to act. And if the British panel fails to follow the international group's recommendation, the IAAF said, the national board itself could face suspension.

That could mean that no British track and field competitors would be eligible for the Olympics, officials said. The British board immediately said it would consider the request at a meeting of its own council April 24. The issue was "probably one of the most serious matters to face the board in its history," Tony Ward, a spokesman for the British panel, said.

Ward called the possibility of suspension a "veiled threat" that the council will have to consider.

Sam Ramsamy, head of the South African non-racial Olym-

pic committee and a leader of the use of sports to pressure South Africa, said the IAAF threat, if carried out, could mean all British track and field athletes would be barred from the Seoul games.

"That is possible," Ramsamy said. He called the IAAF's action a compromise "that fell short of what the Africans wanted, which was a total ban on Zola Budd," but one that was taken "in the interest of international athletics."

Budd was not at the London hotel where the announcement was made. Ward said she was at home in suburban Guildford, and that she and her coach, John Bryant, were "studying the implications of the report."

Ewan Murray, head of the British board, said Budd would be suspended from international competition until at least next weekend's meeting.

In a statement issued by its 21-member council, the IAAF said the British board "ought to consider a suspension of the athlete from international athletics of at least 12 months beginning from today."

"If in the opinion of the council it is evident from the BAAB's report and/or representations that the BAAB have failed to take such action as is necessary, the council will consider the matter further."

That consideration, the IAAF,



Zola Budd

could include "exercising its suspensive powers against the BAAB."

The IAAF council considered charges that Budd attended a meet in Brakpan, South Africa, last June. Budd acknowledged being there but denied that she ran in the race, and both she and the BAAB argued that meant she was within the rules, which bar contact with South African sports because of that country's apartheid policies.

But the IAAF council said — while the letter of law may have been obeyed — the intent of the rules had been violated.

"On the information which it presently has and based on her own admissions, it appears to the council that miss Budd at the very least has been in breach of the spirit of the rules of the IAAF," the statement said.

The IAAF, 14th Graf.

## McEnroe to meet Edberg in final

TOKYO (R) — John McEnroe provided further evidence that he can still be a major force in men's tennis Saturday when he beat American Brad Gilbert to reach the final of the Japanese Grand Prix.

Though McEnroe was some way short of his vintage best in winning 6-3, 6-4, 6-4, it was an impressive victory against Gilbert, who is currently ranked 15 places above him in the world ranking at number 10.

But his seven-month lay-off due to suspension and injury left him noticeably rusty at times — especially in the second set — and McEnroe will have to be measurably sharper against Stefan Edberg in Sunday's final.

The top-seeded Swede, ranked

third in the world behind Ivan Lendl and compatriot Mats Wilander, scored an impressive 6-2, 6-2 win over American Tim Mayotte in the other semifinal.

McEnroe's absence from the circuit has seen his ranking slip to 25th — the first time he has been out of the top 20 since 1977 — but his form and improved court behaviour in this \$617,500 event suggest this latest comeback could be a stunning success.

"It was a hard-fought, exciting match," McEnroe said after his victory over Gilbert, adding with a touch of his old defiance: "The better man won."

Neither McEnroe nor Gilbert could find any consistent accuracy with their services and both men were broken repeatedly.

more the result of poor serving than punishing returns.

Despite carrying a nagging ankle injury, Gilbert succeeded in capturing McEnroe's serve a remarkable total of eight times in the match, an unthinkable occurrence when the 29-year-old was at the peak of his powers.

After winning four games in a row at the start of the first set, McEnroe's early dominance disappeared. "I got off to a great start, God knows what happened," he said. "I lost my edge at 4-0 and Gilbert started to make things happen."

But McEnroe quickly put the second set debate behind him by capturing Gilbert's serve to love in the opening game of the third set and always held the initiative thereafter.

## Heysel stadium trial opens Monday

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — After months of waiting, the trial of 29 people in the deaths of 39 soccer fans at Heysel stadium in 1985 opens Monday, only to be immediately adjourned until September.

The case is widely viewed as a test of efforts to crack down on thugs who use soccer matches as a background for violence. It also comes as English clubs attempt to regain admittance to European tournaments, from which they

were banned after the Heysel disaster. A Belgian court is certain to grant defence lawyers more time to study 31,000 pages of evidence.

The prosecution has agreed not to oppose the motion by attorneys for 26 Liverpool, England, soccer fans, two Belgian police officials and a Belgian soccer federation official.

"It should not take more than a couple of minutes" Monday, said

Eugene Frencken, a senior Justice Ministry official.

Justice Ministry spokesman Francis Burstin said the judge will grant the defence motion for a delay.

"The trial will only open to allow the lawyers to ask for the postponement," he said. "The judge will then move on to the prosecutor who will say 'I am not opposed' and the judge will conclude, 'very good, it is postponed.'"

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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## ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AK1076 ♣95 ♠AKQ7 ♠K6  
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?  
A.—Those who just count points would jump shift in spades. Here, however, you don't know whether you want to play in spades, hearts, diamonds or no trump, so the correct way to show your strength is to respond one spade and then jump shift in diamonds at your next turn. That gives you the maximum chance of finding your best strain and level.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AK1076 ♣95 ♠AKQ7 ♠K6  
This time partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?  
A.—Here, you know where you can play the hand—in diamonds. Therefore, you should make a jump shift, secure in the knowledge that if partner doesn't have a fit in your suit, you can retreat to his suit and still have room for further investigation.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AKQ10 ♣95 ♠AKQ6 ♠72  
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?  
A.—Again, you know where to play the hand: in spades, since your suit is self-sufficient. This is the time to tell partner about your good hand and strong suit by jump shifting to two spades. To clarify your holding, you intend to rebid your spades at your next turn.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠Q6 ♣A83 ♠J10762 ♠AK6

The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
What do you bid now?  
A.—Partner either has a very good suit of his own or a fit in your suit. Either way, your queen of spades is a golden asset, and we lean toward a raise to three spades. With your three key cards, you are interested in slam regardless of which hand partner holds.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠83 ♣AQ3 ♠J10762 ♠AQ6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
What do you bid now?  
A.—With no particular fit for partner's suit and double stoppers in the unbid suits, tell partner you have a balanced minimum with no liking for his suit. Bid two no trump.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠Q7 ♣AQ ♠J10762 ♠KJ63  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
What do you bid now?  
A.—With only one ace, we would tend to dampen partner's ardor a little. There is no point in showing your club suit, since you know partner can't have a two-suiter including clubs. The logical choice, therefore, is two no trump, which would protect your tenaces from a lead through should the hand eventually be played in no trump.

## FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1988

## YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Richter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Don't let yourself be depressed or overwhelmed by any problems which pop up today, since with a little effort, you will be able to easily solve them, and even possibly turn them to your advantage.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Go over your budget carefully, and try to cut out any unnecessary expenses. Don't let anyone involve you in a hair-brained scheme.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you feel that your personal life is not working out correctly, you can make successful changes now. Be tactful with your friends.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) This is a good day to handle personal affairs for which you have had little time during the week. Be more attentive to your mate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) If a good friend of yours is having difficulties, offer this person your assistance. Be more conscientious at your place of business.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get into some public work which will improve your reputation in the community. Avoid a superior who is looking for a scapegoat.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Before putting any new ideas into

motion, make sure they are practical. A new acquaintance may try to fool you, so proceed cautiously.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Be sure you go out of your way to help a stranger, be sure the need is genuine so you won't be "taken." Be sure to drive with great care.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) An associate and you could both benefit until the cows come home, so try to reach a compromise. Rest up at home with your family this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Make sure you carefully check any written communications you send out, as there could be some rather costly mistakes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You are tempted to overstep where entertainment is concerned, but refrain from doing so. Be very precise in any creative work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) The situation at home requires tact and diplomacy, otherwise some bad feelings could arise which would be hard to get rid of later.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Steer clear of an annoying neighbor, as this person could cause you to lose your temper. Use much care in motion of any kind.

## THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth Wirtz

## ACROSS

1 Grandmaster's game

5 Winglike

10 Secretary's secretary

14 Scraggly

16 Ripped

18 Sioux Indian

17 Exclamation of falling

20 Beer

21 Digit

22 Nap

23 Br. school

24 Miller or Southern

25 Celestial exclamation?

32 Burstyn

33 Drag

34 Spigot

36 Wire measures

37 — blanche

38 Wide plick

40 Grass genus

41 Go it alone

42 Patchwork

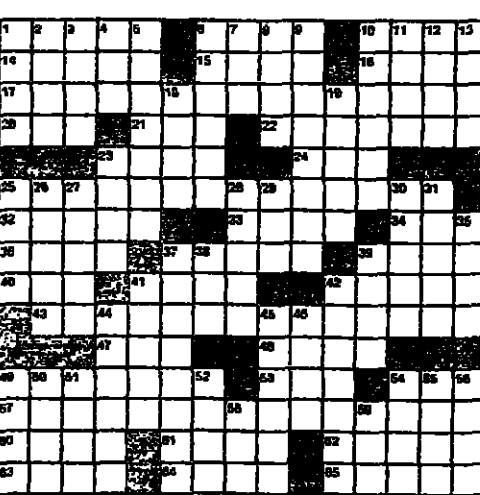
43 Exclamation of disbelief

47 Burnt

48 War god

49 Purge

53 Knightly title



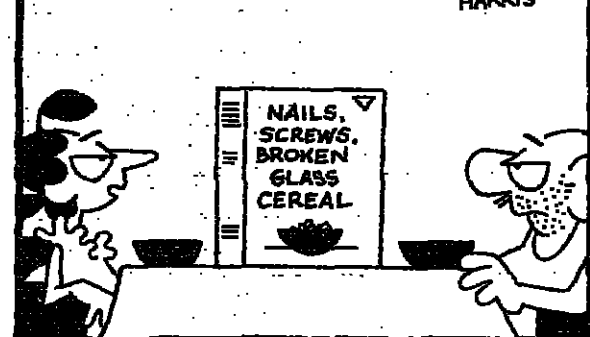
## Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. TURTLE 2. TRUTHFUL 3. CONSTRUCTION 4. COMP D 5. CARBONATED 6. DRINK 7. LARGE AND 8. THUG 9. RICHARDS OR 10. HOLIDAY TIMES 11. ROPE FIBER 12. T.S. 13. MOON DOLLY 14. PALATE 15. CEREAL GRASS 16. TOLERANT 17. 1845 18. CONFERENCE 19. MINUS 20. STRATAGEM 21. SUDDEN DROP 22. IN TEMPER 23. STAGE 24. EVERYTHING 25. HONEY MAKERS 26. OFFICE WORKER 27. HEAVENLY 28. SMALL CASE 29. WREATH 30. PLE 31. VOUCHER 32. CRUDE MINERAL 33. MINER'S QUEST 34. ROMAN SOLDIER

## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

HARRIS

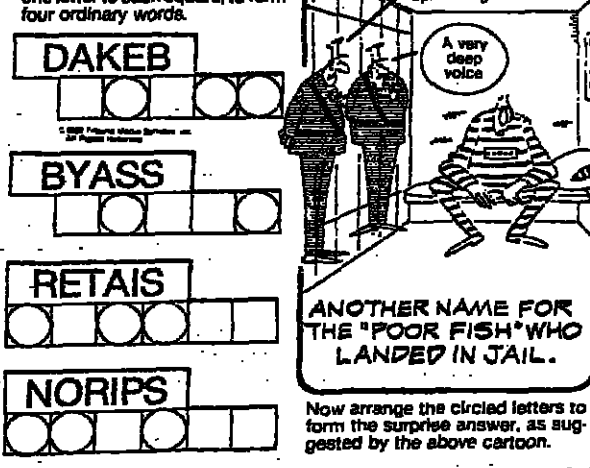


"The box says it contains five times more roughage than the leading bran cereal."

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Answer: A. (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TAKEN JOINT TYPHUS GROTTO

Answer: What she said to the invisible man — YOU'RE OUTTA SIGHT

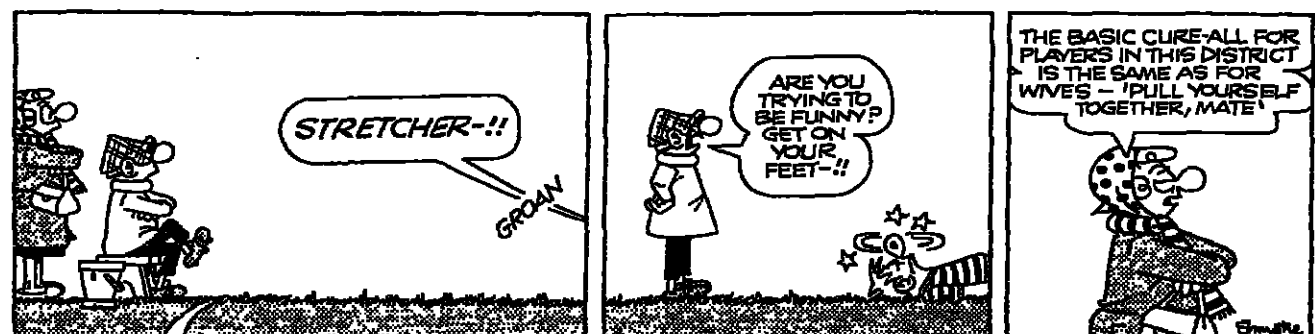
## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp





# Authorities fear bombing suspects have left Italy

**NAPLES, Italy (AP) —** A Japanese extremist suspected of carrying out the car bomb attack that killed five people outside an American military club may have slipped out of the country, investigators say.

Junzo Okudaira of the Japanese Red Army could have fled Italy before authorities identified him Friday as the prime suspect in Thursday night's bombing of the Naples U.S.O. club.

Police investigators said, they believe Okudaira was the man who parked the car bomb outside the club during a party for sailors from the visiting frigates USS Paul and USS Capodanno.

An international arrest warrant for Okudaira was issued Friday evening by Naples Prosecutor Alfredo Sant'Elia.

The explosion killed four Italians and Angela Santos, a 21-year-old American servicewoman. She was based at the Navy's communications station in Naples. At least 17 people, including four American sailors, were wounded.

Authorities said the suspected bomber may have gone straight to the Rome Airport by car and flown out of the country late Thursday night or early Friday.

"A characteristic of terrorist groups in general, and the Japanese Red Army in particular, is preparing for an escape before the actual attack," said Romano Argenio, head of anti-terrorist police in Naples.

Argenio and Ansoino Andreassi, a Rome-based national anti-terrorist official, said they took seriously two claims of responsibility for the bombing.

The first claim was made in Rome, where a man speaking accented-English telephoned a French news agency office and said the bomb was planted by a group called "Organisation of Jihad Brigades."

The caller said the attack coincided with the second anniversary of the American bombing raids on Libya.

In Beirut, a group calling itself "The Islamic Jihad Organisation for the Support of the Oppressed on Earth," claimed responsibility in a typewritten Arabic statement to the Italian news agency ANSA.

The Islamic Jihad Organisation for the Support of the Oppressed on Earth claims responsibility for the attack that was launched by our brethren holy warriors in the city of Naples in which several imperialist soldiers were killed or wounded," the statement said.

The group also threatened to launch attacks against Italy for allegedly supporting imperialism, otherwise "we will be forced to deal with her (Italy) and her interests in the world in the same way and manner."

The group pledged "our brethren holy warriors to continue the clear path that springs from fighting imperialism and world Zionism everywhere."

The language used in the statement would appear to indicate the group is made up of pro-

Iranian Shi'ite Muslims.

The Italian news media suggested the car bombing was linked to the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner, currently held in Algiers, however there was no firm evidence to support the theory.

Argenio said investigators believe Okudaira, 39, was acting in concert with other international "terrorist" groups.

Italian authorities charged Okudaira in December with carrying out the bomb and rocket attacks on the U.S. and British embassies in Rome last June. Several people were wounded.

He is believed responsible for similar attacks during the past 15 years on American, French and Dutch embassies in Europe and Asia.

Investigators said Okudaira had been in Naples for five days, using a fake name and false Taiwanese passport. He had rented a car at the airport — the one eventually used for the bombing — and stayed at the modest San Pietro hotel near the railroad station.

Hotel officials said he often spoke by phone in English with a woman. Investigators said he may have had another male accomplice as well.

U.S. Ambassador to Italy Maxwell Raab travelled from Rome Friday to visit the bombing site and meet with the wounded.

Naples officials declared a day of mourning for Saturday, a day on which funerals will be held for the four Italians.

The U.S. sailors, meanwhile, were ordered to remain on board the two frigates, docked a short walk from the U.S.O. club. Sailors wearing flak jackets and carrying rifles stood guard on the decks.

# High-level Managua peace talks open

**MANAGUA (AP) —** Contra rebel leaders and Sandinista representatives opened high-level peace talks in Managua and pledged to resume the discussions later Saturday.

The contra delegation arrived late Friday for discussions the government said could bring the two sides closer to ending the civil war that has claimed more than 26,000 lives.

The sides met for less than an hour before breaking for the night. There was no immediate report on the content of the discussions.

For the first time since fighting erupted in November 1981, the Sandinistas have permitted contra rebel leaders to visit the capital.

Adolfo Calero, leader of the contra umbrella group called the Nicaraguan Resistance, termed the initial discussions "a warmup session" and earlier said the mere presence of contra leaders in Managua was "a triumph."

Calero arrived with a delegation of more than 40 contras hours on a commercial flight from Costa Rica that was several hours behind schedule.

He said at a news conference that the delegation "has come to Nicaragua in search of what it has tried to attain for many years, which is democracy and liberty for the Nicaraguan people."

General Humberto Ortega, the defence minister and leader of the Sandinista delegation, said: "The victory is when we reach a definitive cease-fire. It doesn't involve mounting a publicity stunt but of complying" with the preliminary peace agreement of March 23.

Agreement on the technical issues of a truce were reached during talks that concluded Friday in the southern border post of Sapoa, 144 kilometres from Managua.

The two sides issued a statement that said "considerable progress" had been made in narrowing their differences. They did not elaborate but said additional discussions on technical issues would be held during the Managua meeting.

The technical discussions were called for in the preliminary peace plan.

As part of that agreement, a 60-day cease-fire went into effect April 1 to give both sides time to work out a permanent truce.

But the two sides were unable to agree on important technical issues such as verification, how the rebels would be resupplied or whether they should be allowed to keep their weapons.

The entire process has been marked by bickering, with each side accusing the other of violating the accord.

The state-run Voice of Nicaragua, which carried details of the contra arrival, said among the returning rebel leaders were Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, Alfredo Cesar, Azucena Ferrey and her brother, Roberto, and Aristides Sanchez.

The radio station said relatives of the rebels gathered at Sandino International Airport to see their family members, some of whom have not been in Managua since 1979.

# Deng expresses strong support for Aquino

**PEKING (AP) —** Philippine President Corason Aquino met Saturday with Deng Xiaoping and concluded a three-day visit in which she said China's most powerful leader expressed strong support for her administration.

Aquino's visit was her first trip abroad in 18 months.

She met Saturday morning with senior leader Deng and Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang, two men who have crafted China's market-oriented economic reforms over the past decade.

Deng, 83, in opening remarks noted, "Since your assumption of the post of presidency we know you have been faced with some difficult situations. But we appreciate your efforts and you have handled problems very satisfactorily."

He added, "I'm confident that you'll achieve complete success and we on our side hope to see a

stable, prosperous and powerful Philippines."

Aquino responded, "I would like to make a comment on what appears to be the perception of instability insofar as my government is concerned."

She continued, "I would like to point out that I've continued to be president even after five coup attempts. I think that should tell the world that the Philippines is a stable government."

Deng last year led a rejuvenation of party leadership by resigning from most of his top posts and has cut back on public appearances, meeting only China's most favoured guests. He is believed to still wield considerable power within the ruling party.

In the 1960s Mao Tse-tung's China gave moral and some material support to Communist insurgencies in Southeast Asia, including one being waged by the

Communist Party of the Philippines.

China has ceased supplying leftist rebels and Aquino said Chinese leaders agreed that the economic development sought by both countries "can only be achieved if there is peace."

She said she and Deng also agreed to shelve the question of the Spratly Islands, about 500 uninhabited islands in the South China Sea claimed by China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Taiwan.

Chinese and Vietnamese naval forces clashed off the islands last month and Vietnam reported that some 80 of its sailors were killed or missing.

Representatives of China and the Philippines signed a trade protocol Saturday calling for trade to reach of between \$400- and 450-million this year between the two nations.

# Panama protests alleged U.S. violations of sovereignty

**PANAMA CITY (AP) —** The Foreign Ministry sent a formal protest to the United Nations alleging U.S. violations of Panama's sovereignty during a recent firefight involving U.S. marines.

Also Friday, the National Banking Commission said the nation's 130 banks, which have been shut since March 3, would be allowed Monday to accept deposits and carry out inter-bank operations.

The ministry's protest said U.S. troops closed a highway just outside the capital for three hours Tuesday night after fighting broke out between "soldiers of the United States and an unknown group."

At a news conference called by the U.S. military, Marine 1st Sergeant Alexander Nevigovski said Friday that his company became engaged in a firefight Tuesday night at a fuel depot with uniformed men "who were using us as training aids."

"They were highly professional," Nevigovski said. "They were good. They were trying to provoke us."

Nevigovski said the intruders wore black uniforms and carried sophisticated night-vision equipment, but declined to speculate on whether they were members of the Panamanian Defence Forces.

In the note sent to U.N. Secret-

ary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Foreign Minister Jorge Abadía called the highway closing a "flagrant violation of Panama's sovereignty" by U.S. troops.

The banking move was seen as unlikely to provide a quick infusion of money to ease Panama's cash shortage, which has been caused in part by a U.S. freeze on

Panamanian assets in American banks.

According to earlier reports, the highway was closed after about 100 Marines exchanged fire with what they described as 40 to 50 uniformed intruders at the fuel dump near Howard Air Force Base, a few kilometres west of Panama City.

# Dhaka to release political prisoners

**DHAKA (AP) —** Bangladesh will release all 1,000 political prisoners to help create a "congenial atmosphere" in the country, a government minister said Friday.

State-run Radio Bangladesh quoted Interior Minister Abdul Matin as saying that opposition political activists held during the anti-government demonstrations will be freed soon.

Opposition leaders, however, said at least 8,000 people are being held as political prisoners. Matin did not announce a date for the releases or specify how many prisoners were being held, but an Interior Ministry official said the release process had begun.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said at least 5,000 political prisoners were detained since the opposition launched its anti-government campaign Nov. 10. But he said at least 4,000 prisoners were released before the March 3 parliamentary elections.

"We will release all political detainees to create a congenial atmosphere," the radio quoted Matin as saying. Matin was addressing a meeting of senior police officials in Dhaka.

# Rebels denounce Afghan pact, vow continued fighting

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan (Agencies) —** About 75,000 Afghan guerrillas and refugees jammed into a sun-baked stadium Saturday to denounce the Geneva agreement that cleared the way for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Each of the seven leaders of the guerrilla coalition vowed to keep fighting until the last Soviet soldier left Afghanistan and the communist government fell.

The rebel leaders have repeatedly said they would reject any agreement reached without their participation and continue fighting. The guerrillas were not invited to the U.N.-mediated negotiations in Geneva.

On Thursday, the United States, the Soviet Union, Pakistan and Afghanistan signed an agreement calling for the 115,000 Soviet troops to begin leaving Afghanistan May 15. Soviet soldiers arrived in December 1979.

As three rows of turbaned, gun-toting Afghans stood in front of the stage, Ahmad Shah, a guerrilla designated by the alliance to head an interim all-Islamic government, told the crowd his administration would soon move into Afghanistan. He gave no timetable.

"We'll stay with you in Afghanistan, in the caves and snow, not in Pakistan," he said.

Most of the rebel groups are currently based in the Peshawar area.

Gulbaddin Hekmatyar, current chairman of the guerrilla alliance, told the crowd the four-part Geneva accord provided for the return of some 5 million Afghan refugees from Pakistan and Iran when they feel conditions are safe.

Hekmatyar asked for a show of hands of those who would wait to return until the last Soviet soldier was gone. Virtually all hands went up.

On Friday, he said all members of the ruling Communist Party must be tried in absentia by religious courts.

Despite the show of unity in the hot and dusty stadium, the leader of a more moderate guerrilla group threatened to boycott the rally if Hekmatyar tried to get a vote of confidence for the proposed all-Islamic government. However, Sibghatullah Mojaddedi attended Saturday's rally.

Mojaddedi recently resigned from the alliance, then later joined it, in protest over the plan, which he said was the work of the hard-line Muslim majority.

Mojaddedi's Afghan National Liberation Front is the only alliance party to welcome the Geneva accord, which it says is flawed but useful.

The hardliners call the accord a sellout by the United States for having failed to secure a cutoff of Soviet military aid to Kabul.

## WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

### Speakes quits firm amid controversy

**NEW YORK (R) —** Former White House spokesman Larry Speakes, rebuked by President Reagan this week for fabricating presidential quotes, resigned Friday as a senior vice president at the brokerage firm Merrill Lynch. Merrill Lynch said Speakes' resignation was "accepted with regret." Speakes, in his own statement, said his resignation was "the best course of action for Merrill Lynch and for me personally." Current White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater Tuesday denounced Speakes for fabricating presidential quotes and called the practice a "damn outrage." Speakes, who served as White House spokesman for six years and briefed reporters more than 2,000 times, joined the brokerage firm in February 1987. Sources said Speakes resigned on his own as a result of the controversy stemming from a just-published memoir, "Speaking Out." The sources said the controversy was getting in the way of Speakes' duties as chief spokesman for the brokerage firm. Reagan publicly rebuked his former spokesman Wednesday, saying: "I have no affection for these kiss-and-tell books" and termed his ex-aide's memoirs fiction.

### 'Sharpeville Six' lawyers apply for retrial

**JOHANNESBURG (R) —** Lawyers for six black South Africans whose execution was held off last month applied Friday to reopen their trial. The "Sharpeville Six" — five men and a woman — won a temporary reprieve on March 17, just before they were to hang after being convicted of complicity in a township murder. They were charged after the murder of township councillor Jacob Dlamini in September 1984 during protests against rent increases in Sharpeville township south of Johannesburg. The court registrar said the application may be heard before the Pretoria supreme court on May 1, but Justice W.J. Human who will preside may bring the date forward. The six were granted a month-long stay of execution when their lawyer, Prakash Diar, produced evidence that a key prosecution witness might have lied under police pressure.

### International drug ring cracked

**HONG KONG (AP) —** Authorities said Saturday they crushed an international drug-trafficking ring with the arrests of 11 men and the seizure of heroin worth \$45 million believed bound for the United States. The arrests Thursday and Friday in this British colony resulted from a joint U.S.-Hong Kong investigation, codenamed Operation Bamboo Dragon, that involved FBI and local undercover agents, said Chris Cantley, a top official with the police narcotics bureau. The probe also led to the arrests of nine people and the seizure of more heroin in the United States. Cantley said the suspects belonged to four local drug supply sources loosely connected with one another. All the arrested men were considered "very significant and we are not looking for anybody else in connection with the operation," he said at a news conference.

### 'Human trafficking' may receive death penalty

**DHAKA (AP) —** The government will introduce a bill in parliament seeking the death penalty for people trafficking in human beings, especially those who force women into brothels in other countries, an official said. Home Minister Abdul Matin, addressing security forces in the border village of Rajshahi Friday, said the bill will be introduced in the next session of parliament on April 25. Officials in Dhaka earlier this month reported that border guards rescued 100 men, 82 women and 72 children from human traffickers during the past 11 months. More than 25 people were arrested in connection with the crime. Bangladeshi people, eager to escape extreme poverty, are lured by traffickers with promises of jobs in India, Pakistan and the Middle East. The traffickers call themselves "manpower agents." Women often land up in brothels in India or Pakistan and men and children are forced to take up low-paying jobs under conditions of virtual slavery, officials said. A death penalty bill introduced by the government can be expected to become law because the ruling Jatiya Party has 251 lawmakers in the 300-member house.

# Religious leaders, lawmakers to collaborate for 'better world'

By Graham Heathcote  
The Associated Press

**OXFORD, England —** World religious leaders and lawmakers agreed Friday for the first time to work together for a different and better world.

A final declaration from the five-day Global Forum of Spiritual and Parliamentary Leaders on Human Survival pledged to concentrate first on eliminating the perils of nuclear and other armaments, balancing resources and populations and helping "vulnerable groups, particularly women and children."

"This meeting is a timely convergence of hearts, minds and events. Human society is in a period of intense introspection, gripped by fear, uncertainty and confusion," said the declaration by 140 participants from about 60 countries of the East and West.

"We therefore now affirm our shared vision of survival, and we commit ourselves to work for a fundamentally changed and better world," it said.

The five main religions of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism were represented, as well as African religions, Hinduism's Jainism offshoot, Shinto and Sikhism.

Keynote speakers included Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, U.S. astronomer Carl Sagan of Cornell University, Mother Teresa who cares for the poor and dying in 80 countries, and the Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled Buddhist spiritual leader.

Paul N. Temple, chairman of Energy Development Corp. in Virginia, a financial sponsor of the conference, commented: "It developed almost a family spirit across the enormous diversity of religion and national affiliations. Channels of dialogue are opening that never existed before."

'Christian-oriented'

But a spokesman for Islam, Ayman Abdellkader Ahwal of the Muslim World League's London office, commented: "Although it might have been unintentional, it has been a Christian-orientated conference, as is perhaps the tone

of world politics."

"The conference ignored the situation in the Middle East, which is terribly dangerous. Religion is politics and they cannot be separated to a truly religious person," Ayman Ahwal said.

Dean James Parks Morton of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, said that although China did not attend after learning the Dalai Lama would be there, the organisers had left two seats vacant on the leadership body to be established in New York, in hope of securing representatives of Chinese faiths of Taoism and Confucianism.

The conference was the brainchild of Akio Matsumura, a New York-resident Japanese expert on population who spent 15 years preparing the gathering.

Shingo Nomura, a 43-year-old Japanese real estate developer who provided one-third of the conference's total \$1.5 million cost, said 40 years ago it was not uncommon for people to die of hunger in Tokyo.

Because people, organisations and countries helped Japan to become prosperous after World War II, "it is possible for Japan

and individual Japanese like myself to begin to contribute to the people and countries in need today," Nomura said.

### 'Only a desert'

The conference on its last day was stirred to give a standing ovation to two North American Indian leaders in traditional costume who related that their ancestors foretold the ills of the modern world a long time ago.

Thomas Banyacya, a Hopi elder from Arizona, held up a reproduction of an ancient rock painting near Oraibi, east of the Grand Canyon, which he said appears to predict nuclear destruction, space travel and the ravaging of the environment.

Chief Oren R. Lyons of the Onandaga Nation, a history professor at the State University of New York in Buffalo, read a letter by Chief Seattle to U.S. President Franklin Pierce in 1855, which said the white man's hunger for land would "eat the earth bare and leave only a desert."

"Continue to soil your bed and one night you will suffocate in your own waste," the letter warned.

### Imagine the world as a village

**OXFORD, England (AP) —** At the Oxford conference on Global Survival this week, Raimundo Panikkar, professor emeritus of religious studies at the University of California, tried this way to explain the task of making the world a better place:

Imagine, he said, the world's 5 billion people as a village of 100 families.

Then, of those 100 families — 7 families own 60 per cent of the village.

— 60 families occupy one-tenth of the village.

— 70 families have no drinking water.

— 65 families cannot read.

— 90 families do not understand English.

— 20 families have a Gross National Product 100 times higher

than the rest.

— 7 families consume 80 per cent of all the available energy.

— 1 family perhaps has university education.

— 80 families have never ridden in an airplane.

"Thirty years ago, the situation was better than it is today," Panikkar said in an interview.

"There are today 100 million homeless and parentless children in the world, 650,000 of them in Rio de Janeiro alone — living in the streets."

"I don't think talking about family planning in these circumstances does any good — it won't change anything."

"How can you tell the poor, who are 80 per cent of all the people in the world, to take a pill? I am afraid their future is bleak."



# Bishops say Britons don't care

**LONDON (AP) —** The Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales said Friday that Britain has become an uncaring society and government are helping to foster an attitude of indifference to the poor. At the end of a three-day conference, the bishops announced a study of attitudes to the underprivileged. Monsignor Vincent Nichols, general secretary of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales, said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government was not directly to blame for the public's attitude to the less fortunate in society. But he said: "We would like to see in the initiatives the government makes more attention given to the distribution of wealth." "The bishops felt that in Britain today there was coming to the surface more clearly than for quite some time a general set of assumptions, a culture of indifference to the underprivileged," Nichols said. "Yuppies values are an aspect of this culture, but it's not just the Yuppies who walk the streets of London past people sleeping in doorways. It's a sense that increasingly in our society we are becoming more and more hardened and dismissive of hardship."

# Gypsies appeal for human rights

**BELGRADE (R) —** Gypsy entertainers from eight European countries from Spain to the Soviet Union sang and danced their woes away until early Saturday at a musical event to celebrate Romany culture and appeal for human rights. Thousands of people, including Gypsies and their supporters, cheered the soloists and ensembles in a Belgrade sports hall at the show in honour of a group that is discriminated against in many countries. "This is great. But unfortunately music and dancing won't solve problems," said Sait Balic, head of the Romany Union, an organisation representing some 15 million Romanes, popularly known as Gypsies, from 26 countries. Referring to his people as "eternal world wanderers," Balic told Reuters they were still deprived of basic human rights in many countries, looked upon with scorn and forced to assimilate with host populations. His organisation, founded in 1971 at a congress in London, sought improved human rights for Gypsies everywhere and was striving to obtain some sort of representation in the United Nations, he said. "We are very loyal to the countries we live in. We don't demand territorial autonomy, just equal treatment with others and the right to equal employment, schooling, our language, culture and tradition," Balic, 57, said.

# Amin's ex-wife models for money

**BONN (AP) —** The ex-wife of former Ugandan dictator Idi Amin has begun modelling women's underwear in West Germany because she needs the money, newspapers reported Friday. The mass-circulation newspaper Bild ran a picture on its last page showing Amin's former wife, Sarah Kyoloba, modelling silk underwear during what it said was a recent fashion show. Bild also reported that Kyoloba, who got a divorce from Amin in a West-German court last year, was collecting 900 marks (\$542) in social welfare payments a month. The newspaper said she received 350 marks (\$210) for her first appearance as an underwear model at a recent fashion show in Cologne.

# Don't feed the animals

**BUENOS AIRES (R) —** A hippopotamus has died at the Buenos Aires Zoo, the victim of a tennis shoe stuck in its throat, the zoo director said Friday. Director Luis Lopez said the animal showed signs of distress Thursday, banging its head against the ground and the bars of its cage. The male hippo died a short time later. An autopsy revealed the cause of death to be a tennis shoe lodged in its throat. Lopez said the zoo has constant problems with visitors throwing objects at the animals. He said an autopsy on a Nandu, a member of the ostrich family, last month found the creature had over 100 coins in its stomach.